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NEWS

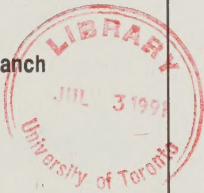


APRIL 1991 • VOLUME 1 • NUMBER 1

Welcome to the first issue of MCSS *News*. This monthly bulletin is designed to provide news about ministry initiatives and community support activities. We are pleased to provide a summary of timely information to our social service partners in communities across Ontario. This bulletin is distributed to Ontario social service agencies, associations, other governments, ministry offices, community centres, libraries and news media.

We welcome your comments about this first issue. Please address them to:

MCSS *News*
Communications and Marketing Branch
7th Floor, Hepburn Block
Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario
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Disponible en français.

"Back on Track"

The Advisory Group on New Social Assistance Legislation presented its first report, *Back on Track*, to MCSS Minister Zanana Akande on March 4.

The 11-member advisory group outlined 88 "action items" designed to significantly improve and update the social assistance system and be more responsive to the needs of people. All recommendations contained in the report could be implemented without amendments to existing legislation—the Family Benefits Act and the General Welfare Act.

Accompanying the report is a document prepared by the First Nations Communities Project Team. It recommends improving and promoting the First Nations' control of social assistance to en-

sure policies are sensitive to economic, social and cultural concerns of Ontario's native communities.

The report is presently being reviewed. The minister has indicated she will discuss what items can be implemented with Cabinet colleagues.

Meanwhile, the advisory group has turned its attention to the legislative review of the Family Benefits Act (FBA) and General Welfare Act (GWA). The group is expected to submit this report to the minister later this year.

For information on obtaining copies of the report, call Chris Overholt, MCSS Communications and Marketing Branch, at (416) 965-7252.

FACTS

Social assistance in Ontario

Cases

In February, there were 457,000 cases (single individuals and family heads) receiving social assistance. This includes Family Benefits (FBA) and General Welfare (GWA).

- 225,000 cases on GWA
- 232,000 cases on FBA
- 457,000 total

Beneficiaries

There were 894,000 beneficiaries in February (includes family heads as well as spouses and children).

- 400,000 on GWA
- 494,000 on FBA
- 894,000 total

\$74.6 million anti-recession package

On March 7, \$74.6 million of the province's anti-recession package was announced to improve communities through capital work projects and to help get people off welfare.

A total of \$50.7 million will be spent on 38 construction and renovation projects at community buildings that accommodate programs funded or directly operated by the ministry. Projects include homes for the aged, child care centres, and facilities for people with developmental disabilities and young offenders. These will create approximately 62,972 individual weeks of work in communities that are experiencing high unemployment.

The remaining \$23.9 million will create approximately 1,020 employment and on-the-job training opportunities for people receiving social assistance. Under the ministry's Social Services Employment Program (SSEP), \$12 million will be directed to establish employment positions within social services agencies for individuals who are receiving social assistance and who are ready for work. A further \$11.9 million will help develop a variety of on-the-job training opportunities for child care centres across the province.

The ministry funding is part of the provincial government's \$700-million anti-recession package.

Safeguards for children and youth

An action plan to improve the safety of children and youth in residential care was announced March 19 by Minister of Community and Social Services Zanana Akande and Minister of Correctional Services Mike Farnan.

The plan is based on recommendations of the *Review of Safeguards in Children's Residential Programs* released earlier this year by the two ministers. The *Review* was prepared by a team headed by Joanne Campbell, past chair of the Social Assistance Review Board.

"Children under our jurisdiction must be truly safe from physical and sexual abuse," said Mrs. Akande. "The *Review* helped us focus and reinforce our efforts to achieve that goal."

"We must also guarantee that these young people and their parents have confidence in the ex-

isting complaint system and its ability to deal fairly with any allegations that arise," said Mr. Farnan. Implementation of the action plan will involve:

- Additional training for agency investigators who deal with allegations of abuse, staff who license residential programs and those working in young offender programs administered by Community and Social Services.

- Improved information programs for children and youth on how to use complaint procedures and other safety measures that are in place.

- A review of organizational structures and staffing practices for young offender programs in Correctional Services.

- New standards and procedures for investigating allegations of abuse, specially designed for children with developmental disabilities.

- Improved advocacy programs for children who cannot speak for themselves, developed in consultation with the Ontario Association for Community Living.

- A review by the Ministry of Correctional Services of its young offender service delivery philosophy, reinforcing positive attitudes toward young people with special needs, and continuing to promote its commitment to the provision of the Young Offenders Act requirement for separate and apart facilities.

The government also intends to review how the Young Offenders Act is being administered in Ontario.

Research grants awarded

Seven applicants to the MCSS Research Grants program have been awarded a total of \$461,006 over two years. The grants are for research and program evaluation projects related to elderly people and people with disabilities.

The program is designed to promote applied research and program evaluation studies in areas where traditionally very limited research funds are available. The grants program is administered on behalf of the ministry by the Ontario Mental Health Foundation.

Genese Warr-Leeper of the University of Western Ontario, London, will compare training using "talking computers" with traditional language therapy for young children with Down's syndrome.

Dr. Leslie Atkinson of Surrey Place Centre, Toronto, will study how the maternal attachment of children with Down's syndrome relates to their communication with other children.

Dr. Maurice Feldman of Surrey Place Centre will explore the use of self-teaching materials such as audiotapes and manuals designed to improve parenting skills for people with developmental handicaps.

The ability of people with developmental handicaps to report accurately on events they have witnessed is often questioned in legal settings and clinical situations. Dr. Nitza B. Perlman of Surrey Place Centre will study improved interviewing techniques to be used with people with developmental handicaps.

Dr. Maureen Dennis of the Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, will study the medical factors involved in hydrocephalic children's problems in reading and writing, as well as appropriate remedial instruction.

People with Alzheimer's Disease often lose the capacity to make decisions and therefore require a substitute decision-maker such as a family member, health-care worker or official guardian. Dr. Michael Silberfeld of Baycrest Centre, Toronto, will study substitute decision-makers' perceptions of their roles and standards applied in substitute decision-making.

M. A. McColl of Lyndhurst Spinal Cord Centre, Toronto, will examine how people with spinal-cord injuries perceive aging, how the process of aging affects these people and their spouses or caregivers, and what resources they require as they grow older.

Public views on social services

The Select Committee on Ontario in Confederation issued an interim report March 21.

The 12-member, all-party committee was established last December to solicit the views of the people of Ontario on the Canadian Constitution and Ontario's role in Confederation. MPP Tony Silipo chairs the committee.

More than 600 individuals and groups made submissions to the committee's public hearings, held in 20 communities.

Many submissions commented on social service issues.

Excerpts from the interim report:

"Although noted directly by only a few witnesses, many believed that a common thread among Canadians was a concern for the well-being of others. This concern and respect was particularly evident in the value placed on our country's social programs. The health-care, education and social welfare services were viewed by many witnesses as significant achievements of which Canadians should be proud...there was also

the belief that we must continue to improve our social welfare system in a way which will ensure all citizens an adequate standard of living."

"The difficulty of life for single mothers coping with low incomes, whether from employment or social assistance, was movingly described by several witnesses. For this reason, services needed to enable women to fully participate in the employment market and to support family structures, including expanded child care, effective enforcement of support orders, educational opportunities, skills training, and effective programs to combat sexual harassment, were addressed by these and other witnesses. Women also joined with other groups such as aboriginal people and people with disabilities, in strongly supporting pay equity and employment equity."

"It was also argued that people with disabilities should have responsibility for and be empowered to make the key decisions which affect their lives, including the operation of agencies and the provision of health, transportation and other services."

Coming up

June 11-12 Meeting the Challenge -- a conference on services to people with developmental handicaps. For direct care providers, parents and professionals. Location: Prince Edward Heights, Picton. More information: (613) 476-2104 (ext. 249 or 220). The conference is one of Prince Edward Heights' 20th anniversary events.

People on the move

Andrew Ranachan is the new executive assistant to Minister Zanana Akande.

Sandra Lang is the assistant deputy minister of Operations. She replaces **Michele Noble**, who is now the deputy minister of Revenue.

Nicole Lafrenière-Davis is the new director of Children's Services Branch. Former director **Sandra Scarth** now heads the Canadian arm of the Child Welfare League of America.

On April 1, **Brian Low** became the administrator of Huronia Regional Centre, Orillia.

Barb Saunders is the acting area manager, Toronto Area Office. Former area manager **Agnes Samler** is now Hamilton area director for the Ministry of Labour.

Provincial-municipal report

A report released March 21 calls for a new financial relationship between municipal and provincial levels of government. The report was produced by an advisory committee chaired by Grant Hopcroft, former president of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario. It was released by Municipal Affairs Minister Dave Cooke.

A news release from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs said: "(The report) suggests municipalities should have increased responsibility for services that are strictly local, such as fire protection and local roads. It also says the province should have greater responsibility for programs that redistribute income, such as health and social services, or for services whose effects go beyond municipal boundaries."

For more information, call Nancy Bardecki, Ministry of Municipal Affairs, (416) 585-6951.

Regional News

A roundup of MCSS funding for community agencies

Southeast

Ottawa

Kanata Kindergarten/School Age Day Care will receive grants totalling \$47,568 from the ministry to establish a new child care centre in **Kanata**. The centre, to be opened in September, will care for 27 children.

Vankleek Hill and Cumberland Township will enhance their services to seniors living at home with \$33,400 in annual funding. The Township of Cumberland will expand its seniors' home support services program and the **Canadian Red Cross Society**, Vankleek Hill Branch, will provide transportation services for seniors.

On March 28, 41 social service agencies in eastern Ontario received ministry funding to improve the quality and variety of services offered in French to their communities. In **Ottawa-Carleton**, 26 agencies received a total of \$586,750 to develop outreach and counselling programs, training sessions and designation activities. Seven agencies in the **United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry** received \$152,100 to improve social services in the French language. Six **Prescott-Russell** community agencies working with

children, seniors or people with disabilities received \$78,050 for the same purpose. Two agencies in **Pembroke** received a total of \$12,700.

Kingston

The **Prince Edward County Community Care for Seniors Association** will renovate its offices in **Picton** with a \$26,800 provincial grant.

Oshawa

First Steps Child Care Services will receive \$364,000 in grants from the ministry to build and equip a child care centre in **Pickering**. The 45-space centre, to be located in the William Peak co-op, will care for six infants, 15 toddlers and 24 pre-school children.

Victoria College Square Day Care, and **Cook's School Day Care**, both in **Cobourg**, will receive funding to improve their facilities. **Victoria College** will use \$10,000 to purchase equipment and supplies; a \$24,165 grant to **Cook's School Day Care** will be used to upgrade the centre's kitchen.

Southwest

Windsor

The **Chatham-Kent Women's Centre** in **Chatham** will receive \$45,000 in annual funding to open the **Wallaceburg Crisis Support Service Program**. The centre, which will open in April, will provide a counselling service for women who experience family violence.

Windsor's ALPHA (Apartments for Living for Physically Handicapped Association) will receive \$80,000 annually in ministry funding. The association provides help to people with physical disabilities who live in their own apartments. The association will purchase a computer and software, furniture and other equipment and add new staff.

London

The **Stratford Area Association for Community Living** will receive \$42,000 in annual funding to expand social and employment opportunities for adults with developmental disabilities. The association provides residential and day programs and helps individuals become active participants as citizens in the community.

Grants totalling \$119,656 will fund expansion of one **London** child care centre, and assist in the creation of another, resulting in 54 new child care spaces. **Acorn Christian Child Care Inc.** will receive a \$55,589 grant to renovate a building for its new centre. **Kidzone Day Care Centre** will spend its \$64,067 grant to renovate and expand its existing premises.

Hamilton

The **Flamborough Branch of the Red Cross Society**, in **Waterdown**, will expand its home support services for senior citizens and people with physical disabilities with a ministry grant of \$24,400. Services include Meals on Wheels, transportation and volunteer visiting.

Central

Mississauga

The **Burlington Association for Community Living** will receive a grant of \$55,000 to equip, renovate and furnish a new residence and purchase a van for adults with developmental disabilities. The association will also receive \$124,033 in annual funding to operate the expanded residential program, provide support services and expand the Life Skills day program.

The **Centre (Milton Children and Youth Council)** in **Milton** will move, renovate its new location and purchase toys and equipment with a \$75,000 grant.

The **Mississauga Toy Library Inc.** will move to a new site to consolidate and expand its services with an \$88,300 grant. The program includes children's play groups, drop-in programs and workshops for parents and other caregivers in the Mississauga area.

Christian Horizons, in **Brampton**, will expand its Supported Independent Living program with an additional \$80,000 in funding from the ministry. The program assists people with developmental disabilities with their daily living needs such as meal preparation, budgeting, and household assistance.

Christian Horizons, in **Oakville**, will establish a new Supported Independent Living program with \$245,000 in annual funding from the ministry. The new program will provide an opportunity for individuals with developmental disabilities from a number of settings, including institutions, to become established in the Oakville community.

The **Children's Services Co-ordinating Advisory Group (CSCAG)** will receive a \$30,000 grant to provide a joint staff training program for three agencies operating children's residential services in **Halton**. The agency provides a co-ordinating, planning and advocacy function for children's services in Halton.

Toronto

New Visions Homes for Children and Adolescents, in **Toronto**, will receive a total of \$1.45 million in one-time and annual funding to establish a community residential program. The new program will enable the agency to serve additional children and adolescents with multiple disabilities. New Visions operates four residences for children and one residence for adolescents.

NEWS

Ministry of
Community and
Social Services
Ontario

MCSS News is published 10 times per year (monthly except January-February and July-August) to provide news about initiatives and program funding from the Ministry of Community and Social Services. It is distributed to Ontario social service agencies, associations, other governments, ministry offices, community centres, libraries and news media. We welcome your comments.

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NEWS



MAY 1991 • VOLUME 1 • NUMBER 2

Ontario Budget

The 1991 Ontario Budget includes a commitment of \$215 million to reform the social assistance system, Treasurer Floyd Laughren announced April 29.

"The social assistance system is an essential part of this province's social safety net," Mr. Laughren said. "This system is a vital support to the stability and security of our economy. It is also an investment in Ontario's future – more than 40 per cent of those who depend on social assistance are children."

The social assistance reforms will provide benefits for those in greatest need, help people get back to work, increase fairness in the welfare system and provide relief to municipalities. The budget allots \$25 million to municipalities to meet increases in welfare caseloads.

A news release from the Ministry of Treasury and Economics said, "These responses to the recently released *Back on Track* report, prepared by the Advisory Group on New Social Assistance Legislation, will help people make the transition into the workforce and the mainstream of community life. They build on the previous commitment of \$220 million to increase social assistance rates by seven per cent and shelter allowance ceilings by 10 per cent that took effect on January 1, 1991."

Social assistance costs for the current fiscal year are estimated at \$4.9 billion, out of a total MCSS budget of \$8.1 billion. The 1990-91 MCSS total was approximately \$6.3 billion.

The government also announced changes to the Ontario Tax Reduction program. "This program benefits people at the low end of the income scale," said the release. "Effective for the 1991 tax year, the \$200 supplement now provided for each dependent child and dependant with a disability will be raised to \$350. As a result of this \$50-million tax cut, the number of taxpayers who will

now have their Ontario income tax reduced or eliminated will increase to 700,000."

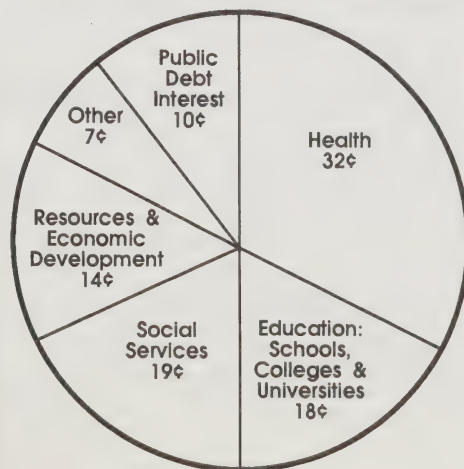
Also announced were measures to increase the supply of affordable housing: "By refining programs, speeding up approvals and reallocating units, approximately 35,000 units of co-operative and non-profit housing will be under development this year."

An additional \$20 million was announced for new spaces and enhanced services in emergency shelters and other improvements to services for women and children who are victims of domestic or sexual violence.

As part of a \$48 million commitment to improving quality of life for Ontario's native people, \$5 million will go toward creating 400 new child care spaces on reserves.

FACTS

Where the budget dollar goes



Volunteer of the year

Angeline Del Col, 74, of Windsor has been named Ontario's most outstanding volunteer in community services for 1990.

Each year the Ministry of Community and Social Services recognizes 40 individuals or groups who are nominated by their peers for outstanding volunteer work in community social services. As the provincial representative of these award-winning volunteers, Mrs. Del Col travelled to Toronto April 22 to receive her award from Minister Zanana Akande. She was also introduced in the Ontario Legislature.

As a nine-year volunteer with the Essex County Roman Catholic Children's Aid Society, Mrs. Del Col is often on the road seven days a week, 12 hours a day. She drives children to treatment programs in London, Kitchener or Brampton.

Since 1981 every infant adopted through the Society has been picked up at the hospital by Mrs. Del Col and delivered to the adoptive parents. As a result, people whose children are now up to nine years old remember how Mrs. Del Col delivered their new family member to them.

Volunteer award winners

Community Service awards for **Northern Ontario** were awarded at a dinner April 22 in Sault Ste. Marie. Recipients:
Brenda Cryderman, Thunder Bay
Sandi Potter, Manitowadge
Sally Field, Sault Ste. Marie
George Roman Zedek, Sudbury
Board of directors, Sudbury Youth Services Inc.
Alice and Bill Forbes-Girdlestone, Sudbury
Agathe Morin, Timmins
Theresa Joanis, Cobalt
Shirley Brander, Mattawa.

Southeast Ontario winners received their awards April 26 in Ottawa:
Marjorie Stewart, Ottawa
Clark Grierson, Ottawa
Jean-François Milotte, Gloucester
Jean St. Jean, Cornwall
Brockville Friendship Centre
Reginald Barr, Kingston
Linda van Will, Marmora
Kids on the Block puppeteer team, Belleville
Goodith Heeney, Peterborough
Helen Pugliese, Oshawa.

Winners in **Southwest Ontario** received their awards May 1 in London:
Jean Myles, Essex
Don and Jean Isaac, Wallaceburg
Tanys Quesnel, London

Don Percy, London (posthumous award)
Elizabeth Ottaway, Woodstock
Andrea Werstine, Kitchener
Brad Howcroft, Guelph
Brenda Aston, Campbellville
Harvie Reddick, Niagara Falls.

Central Ontario winners were announced

April 24 in Woodbridge:
Catherine Caldwell, Barrie
Mary Willard, Holland Landing
Raghbir Singh Samagh, Unionville
Sylvia Claridge, Markham
Patricia Smith, Burlington
Anne Day, Oakville
Lorna Caws and Donald T. Laughton, Mississauga
Pamela Light and Jenny Esplin, Toronto.

MCSS Staff Community Involvement Awards were given to ministry staff who volunteer with community groups in their free time.

Awards for bravery

Twelve-year-old Tiffiney Betts of Niagara Falls was one of 27 people recognized for bravery by MCSS and the Royal Canadian Humane Association (RCHA) at an awards ceremony April 9.

Last fall, Tiffiney saved the lives of five members of her family and she helped to rescue a sixth from their burning home. She received a bronze award from Minister Zanana Akande and Gary Ireson, president of the RCHA. Kelly Hansen of London also received a bronze award for his efforts to save a man's life during a sailboat race on Lake Ontario.

Several people received honorary testimonial certificates for their acts of bravery. Jean-Pierre Possandi of Toronto jumped down from the platform at a Toronto subway station to save a woman who had fallen on to the tracks. Matthew Ferguson of Carleton Place, Peter Clarke of Oshawa and Greg Bowser of Weston rescued a couple in a boating accident. Thirteen-year-old Dwayne Kerdyk of Thorold rescued a younger boy who had fallen through the ice of a reservoir. Grace Nolan of Whitby and Irene Beaton of Pleasant Point came to the assistance of a woman who had been stabbed and helped police to apprehend the assailant. Richard Bouchard of Niagara Falls also received an honorary testimonial for assisting Tiffiney Betts in part of her rescue efforts.

Certificates of merit went to 17 people. The Royal Canadian Humane Association was founded in 1894 and recognizes the efforts of people who, despite the risk, take action to help others.

Advocacy Act

The Advocacy Act, an act to assist vulnerable adults in making decisions about their own lives, was introduced in the Ontario Legislature April 18 by Elaine Ziemba, Minister of Citizenship with responsibility for Disability Issues and Seniors' Issues.

"In its simplest form, advocacy provides a voice for those who may have difficulty expressing themselves because of a disability, whatever its nature, and who do not have the support of family and friends to assist them in doing so," Ms. Ziemba said.

The Act provides for the establishment of an independent Advocacy Commission to create and administer the advocacy system. The Commission's members will be appointed on the advice of a broadly-based advisory committee representative of the disabled and senior citizens' communities.

Premier's Council report

Local Decision Making For Health and Social Services was one of the final four reports issued April 8 by the Premier's Council on Health Strategy.

A news release announcing the report said, "Rather than simply rearranging the elements of the existing system, we must realign the responsibility for planning and providing services. This will enable communities to design a mix of services that meet their specific needs, and respond more fully to the needs of community members, particularly vulnerable minorities whose perspectives have not been sufficiently included in decision making."

Copies of the report are available by calling the Ministry of Health at 1-800-268-1153 or (416) 327-4327.

The council has been replaced by the new Premier's Council on Health, Well-being and Social Justice, announced by Premier Rae in January. A news release issued at that time said the council will "provide advice and research to government and the public on building a just, healthy and fairer society." Charles Pascal, former president of Sir Sandford Fleming College, Peterborough, is the deputy minister for this council.

June 4 is Canada Census Day

Employment projects

Pilot projects created to help women overcome barriers to apprenticeship training are being extended for another two years, Minister of Skills Development Richard Allen announced April 19.

The goal of the projects is "to explore new ways of improving women's access to apprenticeship training at the local level, and to increase the number of women in non-traditional occupations," said a news release. Twenty-five projects are run by community-based agencies; another five through Skills Development field offices.

Coming up

May 31- June 1 People in Motion, an exhibition of products, transportation, services and technology for elderly and disabled people. Queen Elizabeth Building, Exhibition Place, Toronto. Information: (416) 453-0032.

June 4 Children's services to black and Caribbean families with Ralph Agard, Harambee Centres Canada; and **Working with Chinese Canadians and their families** with Phyllis Lam, Chinese Family Life Services. Informal discussion on issues in children's services, sponsored by Children's Services Branch. 1 to 2:30 p.m., Ottawa Room, Macdonald Block, Queen's Park, Toronto. More information: (416) 325-5315.

June 20 Children and violence: How can education and social services work together? With Beare Weatherup, Toronto Board of Education. 1 to 2:30 p.m., Ottawa Room, Macdonald Block, Queen's Park. Information: (416) 325-5315.

New Algoma agency

An interim board of directors has been named to create a new agency that will combine services in Algoma for people with developmental disabilities, Minister Zanana Akande announced April 26 in Sault Ste. Marie.

All eight board members live and work in the district and have personal and/or professional interests in the needs of people with developmental disabilities. Funding shared by existing agencies will be combined and enhanced to finance the new agency.

French lexicon

A new lexicon has been published by MCSS to promote consistency in French language communications throughout the ministry, agencies and related services.

It will be useful for translators, writers, social workers and others who require a standard for common linguistic usage in their work. The lexicon contains terminology pertaining to social work in Ontario, as well as the most commonly used official titles, and names of current programs and initiatives.

For a copy of the *Lexique/Lexicon*, contact: Suzanne Beaubien, MCSS Communications and Marketing Branch, 7th Floor Hepburn Block, Queen's Park, Toronto M7A 1E9; phone (416) 325-5160; fax (416) 325-5172.

Regional News

A roundup of MCSS funding for community agencies

The following announcements were made in April. The city in each heading is the location of the ministry area or local office which works with the agency receiving the funds.

North

Kenora

Fourteen child care and family resource centres across the **District of Kenora** will benefit from a total of \$250,100 in provincial grants and annual funding. The funding will be spent on expansion, improvements, toy and equipment purchases, and program start-up.

Child care needs in **Kenora** will be assessed and identified with a total of \$86,500 in grants. **Confederation College** will receive \$61,500 for community development staff to work with groups, organizations and individuals interested in providing or establishing child care programs. The **Kenora Board of Education** will use \$25,000 to conduct child care needs assessment in association with new school construction.

Child care centres in **Atikokan, Fort Frances and Rainy River** will use \$115,700 for operating and relocation costs, renovations, toys and equipment.

Sudbury

A new home support program for seniors in **Espanola** will receive \$25,000 annually to cover operating costs and support by homemakers and home maintenance workers. The program is operated by the **Inter-Church Council of Espanola and District**.

Sudbury's first government workplace child care centre will open this summer. **Larch Street Kids Child Care Centre** will provide care for 52 children of Ontario government employees and

other families in the community. MCSS is providing \$142,400 for equipment and start-up costs.

Southeast

Ottawa

Ottawa Day Nursery Inc. (Andrew Fleck Child Care) will receive \$400,000 over two years to develop a service to assist children with disabilities to integrate into Ottawa's licensed child care system. The service will establish a pool of professionals experienced in working with and caring for children with disabilities.

Southeast Ottawa Community Resource Centre will expand to offer a full range of home support services for seniors. MCSS will provide an additional \$36,950 annually for the expansion, bringing its total annual funding to \$110,386. The centre provides a wide range of services for seniors, including home maintenance, information and referral, and telephone assurance.

Seniors in **Gloucester** will be assisted with a transportation service to medical appointments, social gatherings and shopping with \$32,000 provided annually to the **Gloucester Centre for Community Resources**.

Osgoode Township Home Support Services, based in **Metcalfe**, will expand its Meals-on-Wheels program with \$17,000 additional annual funding.

The **Alzheimer Society of Cornwall and District** will expand its services to people with Alzheimer Disease and their families with \$40,000 additional annual funding. The Society also operates a wandering persons registry and education programs.

Annual funding of \$113,600 will be used for support services for seniors living in a community residential program operated by the **Grey Sisters of Immaculate Conception in Deep River**. A similar program on the **Algonquin Golden Lake First Nation** reserve will receive \$21,500. As well, \$26,700 annually will be used for a home support program in **Barry's Bay**, including help with home maintenance and transportation.

The **Child Development Centre**, operated by the **Pembroke and District Association for Community Living**, will receive a \$20,800 ministry grant for repairs and improvements. The child care centre accommodates 24 children with developmental disabilities.

Kingston

A new child care centre will be opened by the **Westport Creative Child Care Centre in Westport** in September. The centre will receive a \$48,750 grant for start-up and capital costs. The centre, in the Free Methodist Church, will accommodate 16 pre-schoolers.

Twelve adults with developmental disabilities will move into three community residences as a result of provincial funding for the **Prince Edward Association for Community Living**. Ministry

grants totalling approximately \$900,000 will cover total costs toward purchasing and furnishing three homes. As well, each of four homes will receive \$175,000 annually to cover operating costs and provide support services for residents.

Belleville

North Hastings Children's Services, Bancroft, will receive a \$20,300 grant to start its new Private Home Day Care service.

Belleville and South Hastings will receive \$41,627 to improve and upgrade two existing child care centres and establish three new ones. **South Hastings Child Care Committee** will receive a \$10,000 grant to help planning. **Belleville Collegiate Institute Child Care Centre** will receive a \$19,660 grant to upgrade existing facilities and for operational costs. **Nova Children's Centre Inc.** will receive \$7,710 to start a school-age child care program at Susanna Moodie Elementary School. The **Belleville Family YW/YMCA** will receive a \$14,257 grant to open two new centres for school-age children in two elementary schools.

Peterborough

Sir Sandford Fleming Nursery School will receive \$33,968 for start-up costs, toys and equipment to establish 30 full-day child care spaces for pre-school children. **The Peterborough Family Enrichment Centre**, a parent/child resource facility, will receive \$20,239 to purchase toys, equipment, and educational materials.

Kawartha Child Care Services in Peterborough will use \$49,730 for toys and equipment, office automation, and equipment for children with special needs. **Five Counties Children's Centre, Peterborough**, will receive \$16,000 to replace toys and equipment. In **Ennismore, Shamrock Co-op Nursery School** will use \$22,179 for repairs and upgrading of its playground facilities.

Funding to help communities in **Peterborough, Victoria** and **Haliburton** counties develop new child care options for families was announced April 25. The **YWCA of Peterborough, Victoria** and **Haliburton** will receive \$137,000 to establish a child care community development project. It will work with members of the community to develop and implement a wide range of licensed child care options.

Oshawa

St. Matthew the Evangelist Separate School in Whitby will be the site of a new 31-space child care centre. The **YMCA of Metropolitan Toronto** will receive \$76,000 in capital and start-up grants from MCSS to set up and operate the centre. Construction of this in-school centre has been made possible through a capital grant of \$272,000 from the Ministry of Education.

Durham College ECE (Early Childhood Education) Connection in Ajax will receive \$128,937 to provide consultation, workshops and

resources to licensed child care programs and resource centres in Northumberland County. A second grant of \$29,000 will be used for audio-visual training materials for food management at child care centres.

Southwest

Windsor

The Child's Place, a diagnostic and treatment centre for pre-school children and families in **Windsor**, will receive \$1.4 million to purchase its current leased premises and to construct an adjoining facility to house rapidly-expanding programs. The centre helps children who are emotionally disturbed or developmentally delayed to be integrated into regular child care programs. Renovations and construction should be complete by spring 1992.

Chatham

Wabash Child Care will open this month, providing care for 44 children. MCSS will grant \$22,466 to cover initial staffing and operating costs. A second grant of \$53,772 will go toward costs for toys, equipment and renovations.

London

The London Battered Women's Advocacy Clinic will receive \$21,349 annually to provide emotional counselling and legal information services to more women. An additional \$11,000 grant will be used for consultation services, to develop a long-term strategic plan to meet the needs of women dealing with the trauma of abuse.

Western Day Care Centre at the University of Western Ontario, **London**, will improve kitchen and storage facilities with a grant of \$34,048. The centre provides care for children of students and faculty, but is also open to the community.

A new attendant care program for people with physical disabilities who live at home in **Haldimand-Norfolk** will be provided by the **Ontario March of Dimes in Jarvis**, with \$155,000 in annual funding.

Waterloo

The Ontario March of Dimes, Mount Forest Program, will receive \$35,000 annually to provide attendant care to eight more people with physical disabilities. A total of 20 people will now be served by the program, which provides services such as meal preparation, personal care and assistance, and light housekeeping.

Hamilton

Ten additional people with developmental disabilities will receive supported employment as a result of \$35,000 in annual funding to the **St. Catharines Association for Community Living**.

Approximately 20 adults with developmental disabilities will benefit from new funding for the **Mainstream Supported Independent Living Program in St. Catharines**. Annual funding of \$25,900 will enhance and reinforce life skills train-

ing and support services for people who are living on their own, with appropriate assistance.

Family Home in Vineland will use \$60,000 annually to provide residential placements and support services for additional adults with developmental disabilities.

Bethesda Community Services Division, Vineland, will receive \$20,000 annually to establish a Supported Independent Living program for adults with developmental disabilities. The **Grimsby/Lincoln and District Association for Community Living** will receive \$107,300 to expand its Associate Parent Program to serve additional children with developmental disabilities.

The **Hamilton/Burlington YMCA** will receive a total of \$25,886 to offset start-up costs at four new First Base Child Care programs it operates in four Hamilton public schools. The four before- and after-school child care programs care for 60 children from ages 6 to 12.

Adult women survivors of sexual assault will receive counselling and support services through **Catholic Family Services of Hamilton-Wentworth**. The new program will receive ministry funding of \$36,300 annually.

Central

Barrie

Seniors living in their own homes in the **Penetanguishene** area will be able to enjoy the services of a new day program at **Georgian Manor Home**. The ministry is providing \$36,290 for start-up costs and \$56,400 annually for operating costs and services to frail elderly people.

Eleven agencies providing home support services for seniors living in their own homes in **York Region** will share \$275,500 in ministry grants. The funds will be used in a variety of ways: to subsidize homemaking services for low-income seniors, to purchase equipment and renovate facilities, to fund an emergency response system, to assist with volunteer training, and others. The **Victorian Order of Nurses** will publish a handbook on elder abuse.

Support services for seniors who live at home throughout most of **Simcoe County** will be expanded. The Canadian Red Cross Society, which provides the services, will receive \$150,000 annually for the expansion of its in-home respite program, home maintenance program, and homemaking services. An additional \$13,095 will be used for computer equipment, software and training.

The **Chippewas of Rama** will receive \$17,150 toward the purchase of a van to transport seniors to medical and other appointments, and social and recreational activities. **Helping Hands Orillia** will use \$73,000 toward the purchase of two vans, computer equipment, supplies for its

Meals-on-Wheels program, and a consultant to develop policy manuals.

The **Bausoleil Band Council of Christian Island** will receive \$36,600 for its new seniors centre. Of the total, \$16,600 will be used for furnishings and equipment. Annual funding of \$20,000 will be used toward salaries of part-time staff and to provide home support services.

Mississauga

The **Regional Municipality of Halton** will receive \$118,170 in start-up funding to implement its Child Care Planning and Community Education Program. Halton Region will also use a \$50,000 grant for a year-long study to identify gaps in services for people with physical disabilities and to make long-term plans for integrated services.

The **YMCA of Hamilton/Burlington** and the **YMCA of Oakville** will receive a total of \$105,000 for toys, equipment and supplies for a total of 37 school-age child care programs.

The **Peel Lunch and After School Program** will receive \$611,687 for additional toys and equipment, office computers, a communications program and a client needs survey. The program operates 115 school-age child care programs throughout Mississauga and Brampton.



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NEWS



JUNE 1991 • VOLUME 1 • NUMBER 3

Response to "Back on Track"

In early May, Minister Zanana Akande announced steps to improve and update Ontario's social assistance system. She outlined the government's response to the recent *Back on Track* report, which recommended reforms to the system.

The minister's announcements illustrated how the provincial budget's \$215 million package to revitalize the province's social assistance system would help recipients to become independent.

The government will allocate \$48.8 million to back-to-work initiatives.

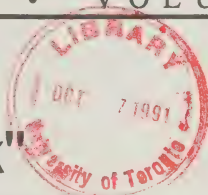
Opportunity planning pilot projects will be established in at least six communities with funding of \$5 million.

Another \$111.5 million will be allocated to initiatives to provide assistance to those in greatest need.

Fairness and accessibility in social assistance programs will be addressed by making services and materials available in a number of languages other than English and French.

As a result of a special increase, maximum benefits provided to boarders will rise by \$50 monthly. About 42,000 individuals and 6,000 families reside in board and lodging settings in Ontario communities.

A one-time benefit of up to \$775 will be available to assist homeless people, victims of family violence, and those boarding in inappropriate settings to set up their own household. An estimated 23,000 households a year are projected to benefit.



The government plans to act on two other important recommendations from *Back on Track*: establishing a council of consumers made up of social assistance recipients; and determining the most useful "market basket" approach to the adequacy of social assistance rates.

Sixteen million dollars will be spent improving and promoting control of social assistance by First Nations.

Also, the minister announced \$12.4 million in extra funding to municipalities this year. The *Back on Track* action items being adopted will save municipalities \$12.6 million, adding up to a total of \$25 million in additional assistance to municipalities.

Job creation fund

Minister Zanana Akande also announced May 1 that the government will establish a \$30.5 million job creation fund for the 1991-92 fiscal year only. This is new money that is in addition to the government's \$215 million response to *Back on Track*. The fund is expected to create at least 1,700 jobs for people who are receiving social assistance.

"We recognize that people would rather work than receive social assistance," said the minister, "and the funding will create employment opportunities in the broader public sector for social assistance recipients to give them work experience and new skills."

Social assistance recipients will be hired in entry-level positions at prevailing wages to perform services offered by non-profit organizations. For example, a person may be hired as a case aide or direct care worker. Many participants frequently find ongoing work with the same organizations.

Combatting violence against women

New funding of \$20.3 million to fight violence against women and to support women who have been assaulted was announced May 8 by Minister of Citizenship Elaine Ziemba, on behalf of Anne Swarbrick, Minister responsible for Women's Issues. This brings the total amount that will be spent this year on government-wide action against wife assault to \$70 million; and for sexual assault to \$17 million.

Community-based counselling, support, and shelter services across Ontario will be expanded and enhanced through \$9 million in new funding. "Women who are assaulted by their partners have many needs, but the first and most basic is a safe refuge from their violent homes," said MCSS Minister Zanana Akande.

Ten new sexual assault centres in Ontario will be created and existing centres will receive extra funds through \$5 million in new funding.

In addition, the Ministry of Health will establish 12 new hospital-based sexual assault care centres, with a new \$1.1 million from its budget.

On May 8, MCSS committed funds to two new shelters, in Georgina (near Lake Simcoe) and Strathroy (near London), as well as funding expansions to shelters in Kenora and Hamilton. This will result in 42 new shelter beds being made available.

FACTS

Women's shelters

- MCSS currently funds 81 Ontario shelters with 1,273 beds for assaulted women and their children.
- By March 1992 there will be 94 shelters with a total of 1,400 beds.

MCSS also funds:

- 72 crisis telephone lines
- Child support workers in shelters
- Emergency transportation for abused women
- Safe environments for abused women in isolated areas.

Access Awareness Week

In recognition of National Access Awareness Week, MCSS Minister Zanana Akande announced May 30 a grant of approximately \$200,000 to the Canadian Hearing Society's Interpreter Apprenticeship Training Program for 1991-1992.

The program "increases the numbers and enhances the expertise of signing interpreters and therefore may improve the access of deaf and hard of hearing people to the job market," the minister said.

The minister also noted that the earlier announcement of increased funding for shelters would enhance access for women with disabilities who are assaulted, and that the recently-announced reforms to social assistance include supplying wheelchairs and special necessities to social assistance recipients with disabilities.

Also during National Access Awareness Week, vocational rehabilitation officers working out of MCSS area and district offices set up displays in community malls. These displays promoted vocational training opportunities for people with disabilities, and encouraged businesses to hire them.

Substitute Decisions Act

Ontario Attorney General Howard Hampton introduced legislation May 27 designed to protect adults with mental disabilities from exploitation, abuse and neglect while giving adults who are mentally capable the legal right to create their own "living will."

The Substitute Decisions Act will allow adults to designate someone to make health-care and other personal decisions on their behalf, in accordance with their stated wishes, in the event they become mentally incapacitated.

For incapable adults who have no family or friends, the Act expands the office of the Public Trustee under a new name, office of the "Public Guardian and Trustee." The new body will have a broader and more precise mandate to act as a substitute decision-maker of last resort.

The Act is part of wider companion legislation including the *Consent to Treatment Act*, under the Ministry of Health, and the *Advocacy Act*, under the Ministry of Citizenship.

Year of the Family

The United Nations has declared 1994 the International Year of the Family. The Year was declared "to create greater awareness of the family as the natural and fundamental unit of society," said a UN news release.

Activities will be co-ordinated through the UN's Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs in Vienna, Austria.

The first project for the Year has already been initiated, a study entitled *Families in conditions of extreme poverty*.

The Year's official emblem will be used to promote public awareness of the goals and purposes of the Year. It consists of "a heart sheltered by a roof, linked by another heart, to symbolize life and love in a home," said the release. "The open design is meant to indicate continuity with a hint of uncertainty."

Coming up

September 15 25th Anniversary Homecoming, Midwestern Regional Centre, Palmerston. Former staff are invited to attend a reunion and barbecue. More information: Phyllis Moore, (519) 343-2015.

People on the move

Maureen Sims is special assistant to Minister Zanana Akande.

Timo Hytonen is acting executive director of Strategic Planning and Intergovernmental Relations.

Mark Woollard, former manager of policy development in Income Maintenance Branch, is now partnership development co-ordinator for the Premier's Council on Health, Well-being and Social Justice.

Regional News

A roundup of MCSS funding for community agencies

The following announcements were made in May. The city in each heading is the location of the ministry area or local office which works with the agency receiving the funds.

North

Kenora

More women and their children in the Rainy River district who are victims of family violence

will receive counselling through \$50,000 additional annual funding to Rainy River Valley Health Care Facilities Inc. of Fort Frances.

Southeast

Ottawa

The Social Planning Council of Ottawa-Carleton (SPCO-C) will continue to sponsor francophone child care development in the Ottawa area, with a grant of \$65,000.

A new kindergarten and school-age child care program will open in September at Churchill School, established by Ottawa-Carleton School Day Nursery Inc. Three other Ottawa child care centres will share \$79,473 to improve facilities.

Child Care Information in Ottawa will develop workshops and a newsletter for Ottawa-Carleton child care staff with a \$19,208 grant. Two toy libraries will be established by the Ottawa Board of Education with \$6,000.

Parents and child care providers in Rockland will benefit from the services of a new child resource centre at Garderie Le Carroussel, with \$25,000.

New Canadians, particularly young people from Asia and East Africa, will receive help in adjusting to life in their Ottawa community through grants of \$21,237 to the Youth Services Bureau of Ottawa.

Ottawa young people with drug abuse problems will have a better chance of combatting their addictions, through \$304,697 shared by the Roberts Smart Centre and the Youth Services Bureau of Ottawa-Carleton to train front-line children's agency workers.

The 47 children at Garderie Sur un Nuage child care in Gloucester will have a newly refurbished playground through funding of \$38,000.

Kingston

People with developmental disabilities will have more opportunities for community living when three residential programs are established in the Kingston area. Funding of \$1.26 million will be shared by Christian Horizons and the Kingston and District Association for Community Living.

A new child care centre will open in September in Prescott. More Than Just Babysitting will receive \$150,000 in funding for start-up costs and subsidies. The centre will provide care for 49 children.

Belleville

Many working parents with low incomes in the Sharbot Lake area will receive subsidized child care through \$95,114 funding to North Frontenac Community Services' new child care centre.

Children in day care now and in the future in First Nation Tyendinaga, Napanee and Picton

will benefit from a total of \$39,595, to be used for a child care conference, planning, and renovations. First Nation Tyendinaga is hosting the ninth annual provincial Native Day Care Conference, July 9-11.

Peterborough

A total of 28 children will benefit from provincially funded improvements to **Hucklebug Pre-School and Day Care in Norwood.**

Southwest

Windsor

Francophone toddlers and pre-school children in **Windsor** have a new child care centre. **Chez Nous Child Care Inc.** will receive \$75,680 for establishing the facility in the AKO Community Centre.

Up to eight pre-school children with developmental disabilities will be integrated into regular child care programs, through grants totalling \$75,471 to the **Essex County Day Nursery, Amherstburg and Leamington Day Nursery Inc.**

London

Families in the St. Thomas and Elgin County area are benefiting from a child care study carried out by the **YWCA St. Thomas-Elgin**, with a \$30,000 grant.

The **Quad County Association for the Mentally Retarded in Wardsville** will receive \$20,000 to expand services and supports to people with developmental disabilities.

People with developmental disabilities will receive special support through an additional \$20,000 annually to the **Tillsonburg and District Association for Community Living.**

Hamilton

The **March of Dimes Niagara** will expand and enhance its respite attendant care outreach program for people with physical disabilities and their families, with \$312,000 in annual funding.

Some 74 youngsters in **Ridgeway** will benefit from new funding for **St. Michael and All Angels Day Care.** A grant of \$41,011 will be used for renovations, toys and equipment.

Central

Barrie

Grove Park Home in Barrie, which is home to 93 seniors, will repair its roof with help from a \$47,066 grant.

Mississauga

Women who are victims of family violence in **Milton** will benefit from new funding of \$36,332 to **Women's Place.** This shelter provides women who have been abused with counselling, support and a home for up to six weeks.

More counselling for women who have experienced domestic violence or who have been sexually assaulted will be possible with additional

funding of \$27,000 to **COHR (Burlington Counselling and Human Relations Institute).**

Children with emotional, social or behavioural difficulties in residential treatment at **Woodview Children's Centre in Burlington** will be riding in a new van to their day treatment programs. A grant of \$30,000 will be used to purchase the van and make building repairs.


Youths with social or emotional problems in **Halton** schools are among those who will benefit from new grants to the **Children's Assessment and Treatment Centre in Oakville and North Halton.** Funding of \$70,285 allows the expansion of the Youth Aiding Youth programs.

Children with emotional, social or psychological difficulties in **Halton** will benefit from a \$40,000 grant to expand services of the **Children's Services and Co-ordinating Advisory Group (CSCAG).**

The **Halton Children's Aid Society** will use a \$50,000 grant for new car seats, office equipment, furniture and a fire alarm system.

Children in **Mississauga** will benefit from grants totalling \$327,324 to three agencies which operate in-school child care services: the **YMCA of Metro Toronto, Family Day Care Services** and the **Peel Lunch and After School Program.**

NEWS




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NEWS



Ministry of
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Ontario

JULY/AUGUST 1991 • VOLUME 1 • NUMBER 4

Redirection of long-term care

People with physical disabilities and the elderly in Ontario will benefit from changes to long-term care services outlined June 11 by Minister of Community and Social Services Zanana Akande. The minister announced \$647 million in provincial funding over the next five years to meet the needs of people requiring long-term care.

"There is a need across the province for services that will help people to live in their own homes and communities," said Mrs. Akande. "The redirection of long-term care services will allow us to shift the emphasis from over-reliance on facility services to the development of creative community-based services."

Services such as nursing visits, homemaker visits and attendant care will be increased. No user fees will be charged for these essential services.

Community-based programs such as meals-on-wheels and transportation will be significantly enhanced.

Priority will be given to the development of support programs in co-operation with those planning non-profit housing.

"Nursing homes, homes for the aged and chronic care hospitals will continue of course to have a role to play," said the minister. "They are still needed to care for people with needs that cannot currently be met in the community." About \$200 million will be added to the budgets of existing nursing homes and homes for the aged.

Forty new agencies will be created across the province to consolidate existing home care and placement resources. These agencies will be governed by community boards. They will assess

people's needs, and purchase appropriate services in the home as well as respite and day programs for them, or co-ordinate access to long-term care facilities. The new agencies will also provide information, advice and referrals for people who might need help to find the services they need.

In the fall, the government will start a community-focused consultation on long-term care, inviting comments from interested groups and individuals. Further details will be available in the early fall.

Following the consultation, the government will introduce new legislation to support the redirection of the province's long-term care services.

FACTS

Long-term care in Ontario

Some selected facts:

- 182 homes for the aged with 27,966 beds
- 336 nursing homes with 30,489 beds
- 1,075 support service living units for people with physical disabilities
- 1,395 people with physical disabilities served by attendant care outreach programs
- 24,354 people served by the Integrated Homemaker program
- 15,800 people served by homemakers and nurses services
- 226 elderly persons' centres

Values and principles in social services

On June 20, provincial and territorial ministers agreed to adopt a national statement of values and principles to guide the development of Canada's social policy for the next decade and beyond.

The statement was released following two days of meetings by provincial and territorial ministers responsible for social services, with the absence of Quebec. The meetings were held in Toronto and chaired by MCSS Minister Zanana Akande.

The statement said:

"We support the following values and principles.

Values

We believe that social policy in this country should promote the dignity and self-worth of each person, and reflect fairness and equality for all members of the community.

We believe in self-sufficiency and self-determination as keys to maximizing individual potential. We must create incentives for people to work together to solve problems, and make our services flexible to meet identified needs and choices.

We value the family as the basic unit of society, and the best environment in which children grow and develop.

In sharing responsibility among government, the community and the individual, we strive to balance personal freedom and collective responsibility. Our policies will be guided by compassion, and will protect the most vulnerable members of society.

Principles

Social assistance should be available to those most in need and should provide an adequate safety net. We should facilitate independence by integrating opportunities for employment and training into income security programs and eliminating barriers to self-sufficiency.

Benefits and services should be integrated and simplified.

We should respect personal privacy and limit intrusion into people's lives, and be sensitive to cultural and religious values.

We should encourage flexibility and choice for clients, and facilitate full participation in community life.

In managing social services we should encourage public participation by being accessible and responsive. We should promote intergovernmental and interministerial co-operation to build

partnerships with the community and private sector.

We should invest in affordable programs that stress prevention, as well as those that respond to need. Quality service is key to this effort; we should be accountable for, and evaluate our performance against, a set of defined objectives."

Coming up

August 16-18

Reunion of 1968-74 Mental Retardation Certificate course students, Rideau Regional Centre, Smiths Falls. Call (613) 284-0123 Graham Merpaw ext. 217 or Denise Miall ext. 497.

August/September

Caring for Young Children, a five-part TV series for people who provide child care in their homes or are considering it, and for parents who use child care services. Broadcast on TV Ontario Saturdays in August at 4:30 p.m.; Thursdays from Aug. 15 to Sept. 12 at 7:30 p.m.; and Wednesdays from Aug. 28 to Sept. 25 at 10:30 a.m.

Children's services in York

Child welfare services for children and families in York Region will be managed and operated through a new corporation. On June 18, Minister Zanana Akande delegated management and operating powers for these services to Children and Family Services for York Region.

Blue Jays Kids Day

For the ninth straight year, the Toronto Blue Jays, the Variety Club and the Ministry of Community and Social Services teamed up to sponsor Blue Jays Kids Day, Sunday June 30.

Five thousand children and their adult escorts were treated to a Blue Jays game at the SkyDome in Toronto. Ministry staff worked with children's agencies across Ontario to choose the children who would benefit most from the experience. The Variety Club paid for transportation, the Blue Jays donated the seats, and ministry staff co-ordinated the project.

The young fans went home happy — the Jays defeated the Seattle Mariners 6-1.

Housing policy

The Ministry of Housing is asking people and organizations with an interest in housing issues to help develop a comprehensive housing policy for Ontario.

Two consultation papers, *A Housing Framework for Ontario* and *Government Land for Housing*, are being sent to MCSS-funded agencies for comments. In particular, MCSS Minister Zanana Akande is asking for comments by September 1 about the proposed "right of first refusal" for surplus properties of transfer payment agencies. If you have not received copies, call the Ministry of Housing at (416) 585-7041.

Regional News

A roundup of MCSS funding for community agencies

The following announcements were made in June. The city in each heading is the location of the ministry office which works with the agency receiving the funds.

North

Sault Ste. Marie

Adult students with developmental disabilities will benefit from funding for an integrated post-secondary diploma program at **Sault College**. The program will receive \$99,281 annually; three teacher assistants will help the 20 students to succeed in the program. A start-up grant of \$47,000 will be used for technical aids, marketing the program, and an orientation program.

Sudbury

The new **Youthful Offenders Open and Secure Detention and Custody** program officially opened June 25. The program, operated by **Sudbury Youth Services Inc.**, will serve the districts of Sudbury and Manitoulin. It is housed in two buildings constructed last year with \$4.8 million in funding from MCSS. Sudbury Youth Services provides residential, educational, life skills and recreational programs for young people who have come in conflict with the law.

Southwest

Ottawa

People with Alzheimer disease and their caregivers will have access to expanded services and training through a total of \$42,055 to the **Alzheimer Society of Ottawa-Carleton** to expand one of its day programs, and to provide training to caregivers at Algonquin College.

Seniors living at home in **Nepean and Ottawa** are receiving enhanced support services, through a total of \$ 55,000 to **Nepean Seniors**

Home Support and the **Old Forge Community Resource Centre**. A total of \$84,300 in annual funding will be used by **Ottawa West Seniors Support Service** and the **Glebe Centre** for home support services. The **Community Resource Centre for Kanata, Goulbourn and West Carleton** will operate a transportation service for seniors with \$21,500 annually.

Survivors of sexual assault and incest will benefit from \$50,500 in grants for two Ottawa-Carleton programs — **The Family Service Centre of Ottawa-Carleton** and **The Committee on Sexual Assault**.

Peterborough

Children and working parents in **Peterborough County** will benefit from the implementation of a strategic plan for child care by the **Peterborough County Child Care Forum**, which will receive \$160,000 to continue its operations for two years.

The **Haliburton Social Action Committee** will receive up to \$75,000 for a study to examine the possibility of merging children's agencies and services funded by MCSS, including child welfare and children's mental health services.

Southwest

Sarnia

Twenty-seven children in **Sarnia** will be playing and learning in a new child care centre, starting this September. **Imperial Day Care for Children Inc.** will receive a \$54,000 capital grant to establish the centre on Mack Avenue.

London

People with physical disabilities in **Elgin, Middlesex, Huron, Perth and Oxford** counties will have greater access to attendant care as a result of annual funding of \$629,000 to **Cheshire Homes of London**, for its Outreach Attendant Care Program.

Waterloo

Up to 16 adults and children with developmental disabilities in **Guelph and Wellington County** will benefit from new funding of \$61,000 annually to the **Guelph and District Extend-A-Family Association**, enabling it to place and support eight additional individuals in family homes in the community.

Hamilton

Working parents and their children in **Hamilton** will benefit from the establishment of **Noah's Ark Child Care**, which will open by September, with help from grants totalling \$75,374. Also in Hamilton, **Paradise Corner Children's Centre**, a child care program, will purchase its building with help from a \$280,000 grant.

Communities in **Niagara Region** are benefiting from a child care study assisted by a \$21,164 grant to the **Niagara Children's Services Committee**.

Central

Mississauga


Five adults with developmental disabilities will participate in a new residential program in **Brampton**, with a \$20,000 start-up grant and \$181,000 annually to the **Brampton/Caledon Association for the Mentally Retarded**. The individuals will be moving to the community from Huronia Regional Centre.

More people with developmental disabilities and their families in **Peel Region** will be served, through \$60,000 annually to the **Peel Case Management** program for additional staff.

Toronto

People with physical disabilities living at home will benefit from a total of \$365,476 funding for several agencies. The money will be used for staffing and other costs associated with attendant care, by **Arts with the Handicapped Foundation of Canada**, **Bathurst-Prince Charles Project**, **Bathurst-Prince Charles Outreach Program**, **Morrison Residence**, **North Yorkers for Disabled Persons** and **Participation Apartments**.

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NEWS



Ministry of
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New deputy minister

Charles Pascal was appointed Deputy Minister of Community and Social Services effective August 22.

Since January of this year, he had been deputy minister of the Premier's Council on Health, Well-being and Social Justice.

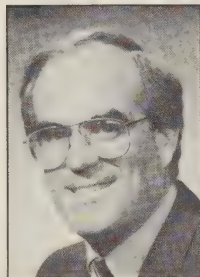
The new deputy has an extensive background in education. In 1969, he graduated from the University of Michigan with a PhD in psychology and education and went on to join the psychology faculty of McGill University in Montreal.

During eight years in Montreal, Pascal served on numerous community advisory boards and committees dealing with teaching and learning and the education of disadvantaged and special-needs children. He founded the McGill Community Family Centre (a day care centre) and headed a team that provided training to parents of physically and emotionally challenged children.

In 1977, Pascal accepted a joint position with the University of Toronto, the Ontario Institute of Studies in Education (OISE) and the Council of Ontario Universities Program for Instruction Development. In 1981, he became the executive head of graduate studies at OISE.

The following year, he became president of Sir Sandford Fleming College, a post he held for six years. In 1987, he was appointed chair of the Ontario Council of Regents, which is the government's chief policy and planning body for the province's college system.

Valerie Gibbons, former MCSS deputy minister, is now deputy at the Ministry of Government Services.



Charles Pascal

Supreme Court decision on CAP

In an August 15 decision, the Supreme Court of Canada upheld the federal government's limits on growth in Canada Assistance Plan (CAP) transfers to Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia.

Ontario is losing more than \$1 billion in federal transfer payments in 1991-92 and more than \$400 million from 1990-91 as a result of this "cap on CAP."

At a news conference the day of the decision, Premier Bob Rae said: "When we look at the challenge facing Ontario, the problems facing the citizens of this province, it is very, very unfair for the federal government to be using ... this moment as the time when they will effectively limit the transfers to the people of this province."

In its 1990 budget, the federal government announced a 5 per cent limit on the growth in CAP entitlements to Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia. The B.C. government challenged legislation that implemented this limit, on the basis that it was not in accordance with the terms of the Canada Assistance Plan Agreements signed by each province in 1967, which require provincial consent to amend the agreement or one year's notice by either party to terminate the agreement. Ontario, Alberta and Manitoba intervened in the court case on behalf of British Columbia, and the British Columbia Court of Appeal ruled in the provinces' favour.

The federal government appealed the decision of the B.C. Court of Appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada, which heard the appeal in December 1990, and rendered its decision August 15.

Northern health and social services

Practicing professionals and graduating students are invited to discover the many career opportunities that exist in northern Ontario.

Professionals and graduates are needed in many fields: social work, child development, social services, medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, physiotherapy, speech pathology, occupational therapy, audiology, nursing, psychology, and chiroprody.

The Health and Social Services Recruitment Tour invites interested people to a series of receptions, to be held in several cities in October. The receptions, complete with representatives from more than 50 northern communities, offer an opportunity to learn more about community amenities, career openings and government-sponsored bursaries and special incentives for selected professionals.

All sessions are from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m., except London, which is 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Ottawa — October 7, Chateau Laurier

Kingston — October 8, Holiday Inn

Hamilton — October 9, Sheraton Hamilton

Toronto — October 10, Sheraton Centre

London — October 11, Centennial Hall

The tour is sponsored by the Ontario Ministries of Community and Social Services, Health, and Northern Development and Mines.

For more information, contact Jane E. Greer, MCSS Communications and Marketing Branch, Toronto, (416) 325-5151.

Coming up

September 23 Fall session of the Ontario Legislature begins.

October 19 **Extend-A-Family Canada Workshop** for families, hosts, people with a disability, staff, board members and friends. Location: North York. More information: (416) 493-4493.

October 30 - November 1 **Employment Equity Forum**, Ontario Women's Directorate, Sudbury (in French). More information: (416) 699-2134.

November 19 - 21 **Technology for Everyone II Conference**, Chatham. Technology for people with disabilities. More information: Paul McPhail, (519) 676-5431, ext. 2264.

New SARB chair

Since July, Laura Bradbury has been the chair of the Social Assistance Review Board (SARB). She joined the Board from the Workers' Compensation Appeals Tribunal where she had been vice-chair and alternate chair. Before that, she was an investigator in the Office of the Ombudsman.

The Social Assistance Review Board holds province-wide hearings of appeals by individuals regarding decisions on General Welfare Assistance, Vocational Rehabilitation Services, Family Benefits, and co-payment (exemption from payment for chronic care services provided under the Health Insurance Act). The SARB office is located at 1075 Bay Street, Toronto.

Designs and products for independence

A new MCSS workshop series on independent living is offered to social service providers and planners.

The ministry's Program Technology Branch will present several workshops over the coming months at the MCSS Window on Technology Centre, North York. The centre is a simulated home environment which displays creative designs and innovative products that help people who are elderly or disabled to be independent in their daily lives.

There is no registration fee for these full-day workshops:

October 1 Food Preparation and Personal Hygiene

October 29 Hemiplegia

November 28 Kitchen and Bathroom Design.

For information and registration forms, contact the MCSS Program Technology Branch, 12th Floor, 5140 Yonge Street, North York, Ont. M2N 6L7. Phone: (416) 730-6470. Fax: (416) 730-6654.

Child care alert

Parents and caregivers should be aware that leaving a young child unattended in a bath seat can have tragic consequences, warns Consumer and Corporate Affairs Canada.

Although bath seats are designed to allow a young child to sit up independently while playing or being bathed, the child may drown if the seat tips over in the tub.

For more information, contact the nearest office of Consumer and Corporate Affairs Canada (listed in the blue pages of your phone directory).

People on the move

Laura Ziemba is legislative assistant to Minister Zanana Akande.

Bob Cooke, former director of Income Maintenance Branch, is now director of project planning at the Fair Tax Commission.

Kay Eastham, former director of Child Care Branch, is now director of Community Education and Outreach Branch, Ministry of Education.

Regional news

A roundup of MCSS funding for community agencies

The following announcements were made in July and August. The city in each heading is the location of the ministry office which works with the agency receiving the funds.

North

Sault Ste. Marie

Francophone families will benefit from the Soo's first francophone child care resource centre and toy-lending library, established by the **Sault Ste. Marie Francophone Centre** with \$156,000 in funding.

North Bay

People with developmental disabilities in the **Mattawa** area will benefit from \$842,900 to the **Mattawa Association for Community Living** for a new residential program, and to purchase and expand the organization's building.

People with developmental disabilities will benefit from funding to several programs: \$42,000 annually to the **South Muskoka Association for Community Living in Bracebridge** for an activity program; \$63,400 annually to **Community Living Huntsville** for supported employment; and \$125,000 to two **Muskoka** programs operated by **Christian Horizons** to provide supported independent living and employment training.

Five people with developmental disabilities will soon have a home they can call their own in **East Parry Sound**. **Christian Horizons** will use \$514,500 to build and operate a residence for people aged 45 and older.

Southeast

Ottawa

People with developmental disabilities and their families in **Ottawa-Carleton** will have simplified access to services, through a grant of \$190,000 to **Somerset West Community Health Centre**.

Up to 51 children in **Nepean** will attend a child care centre at **Algonquin College**, which will receive a start-up grant of \$31,867 for staffing and

administration at its Early Childhood Learning Centre.

Up to 39 children in **Stittsville** will attend the new **Stittsville Co-operative Nursery School**, through \$34,721 in MCSS grants.

Peterborough

Child care spaces for up to 15 school-age children will be added to **Curve Lake First Nation Child Care**, with \$56,082.

The **Peterborough Social Planning Council** will receive \$56,000 during the next two years, to implement anti-poverty strategies in the city.

Belleville

Families in **Prince Edward County** will benefit from child care planning and a child care needs assessment conducted by the **Prince Edward County Child Care Planning Group**, with \$34,500.

A child care needs assessment will also be conducted by the **South Hastings Child Care Committee**, with a \$38,000 ministry grant.

Children, their families and caregivers in **Lennox and Addington** will benefit from funding of \$17,800 to **Lennox and Addington Resources for Kids**, for renovations and equipment at its new location in Napanee.

Oshawa

Children and families in **Whitby** and **Ajax** will benefit from funding for new in-school child care programs. **Schoolhouse Playcare Centres of Durham** will receive \$75,000 for a program in **Whitby**, and another \$75,000 for a program in **Ajax**. **P.R.Y.D.E. Learning Centres Inc.** will receive \$75,000 to establish a centre in **Ajax**.

Up to 31 children in **Bowmanville** will play and learn at a new in-school child care centre, established by **Kawartha Child Care Services** with \$75,000.

Southwest

Windsor

The **Windsor West Citizens Organization** will use \$15,000 to disseminate information and promote prevention of domestic and child abuse.

Sarnia

Up to 75 children in **Sarnia-Clearwater** will be able to play in child care centres at three local public schools. The **Sarnia YMCA** will use a total of \$20,892 to establish and equip the centres.

Waterloo

Children at **Cambridge** and **Kitchener-Waterloo** elementary schools who experience emotional problems will be matched with caring volunteers through the "Friends" program. Operated by the **Canadian Mental Health Association — Waterloo Region Branch**, it will expand with help from \$46,645 in annual funding.

Hamilton

The new **Gordon Price Children's Centre** in **Hamilton** will accommodate 47 children. It will receive \$66,335 for start-up costs, toys and equipment.

Forty-seven children will be able to play and learn in the new **St. Bernadette Children's Centre** in **Dundas**, through \$74,525 in funding.

Young parents in the **Brantford** area will be able to continue their education through expansion of the **Pauline Johnson Child Care Centre** at **Pauline Johnson Collegiate and Vocational School**. Funding of \$18,533 will mean that more young parents will be able to continue their education through the day while their children learn and play at the centre.

Up to 91 children will be accommodated in new or expanded francophone child care programs in **St. Catharines**. **La Garderie Francophone de St. Catharines** will use \$414,944 to expand one program and establish another.

Central

Barrie

Up to 35 children in **Alliston** will be able to attend a new in-school child care centre. The **King Street Kids Child Care Centre** will use \$60,740 to establish the program.

Seventy children in **Thornhill** will enjoy the new **Rosedale North Child Care Centre**, which will receive \$79,650 for start-up costs, toys and equipment.

Aurora

Up to 120 children in **Richmond Hill** and **Thornhill** will attend two new child care centres. **Richmond Hill Ecumenical Homes and Kids Come First Child Care Centre of Vaughan**, **Thornhill**, will be given a total of \$174,897 in grants.

Children and families in **East Gwillimbury** will benefit from a grant of \$11,400 to the **East Gwillimbury Caregiver Resource Centre** in **Queensville** for renovations, toys and equipment.

Mississauga


Adults who are living with the effects of acquired brain injury will receive daily living sup-

port services, through \$146,281 for start-up costs and \$315,023 annually to the **Head Injury Association of Peel and Halton**. The association will establish a new transitional living centre.

Children with special needs in **Dufferin County** will benefit from \$80,000 annually to the **Weston Jacob Centre** in **Orangeville**, to provide specialized foster homes for six to eight children who may have developmental disabilities, and/or behavioural, social or emotional problems.

Children and teens in **Shelburne** will benefit from a provincial grant to the **Rural Dufferin Community Centre**, which will use \$11,340 to purchase toys, equipment and a computer for two community programs.

NEWS




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NEWS


 Ministry of
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OCTOBER 1991 • VOLUME 1 • NUMBER 6

New minister named

Marion Boyd was named Minister of Community and Social Services October 15. She replaces Zanana Akande, who resigned October 10.

Mrs. Akande announced her resignation because of rent review proceedings related to a Toronto property she owns.

She said: "This process will take some months to resolve. Therefore, I have decided to tender my resignation as Minister of Community and Social Services in order that the Legislature can focus on the many important issues facing the people it serves."

Before her appointment, Marion Boyd had been Minister of Education as well as Minister responsible for the Ontario Women's Directorate (OWD). She will retain her OWD portfolio. Tony Silipo is the new Minister of Education.

Minister of Health Frances Lankin assumes responsibility for long-term care initiatives.

Mrs. Boyd has had a lengthy involvement in community services. From 1984 to 1990, she managed the London Battered Women's Advocacy Clinic as executive director. She was president of the London Status of Women Action Group, a member of the London Day Care Advisory Committee and chaired the board of London's Cross-Cultural Learner Centre.

In 1989, she won the Mary Campbell community service award from Information London. She has been actively involved in committees dealing with issues such as refugee assistance, drug addiction, and women's health. From 1980 to 1981, she taught a day care administration course at Centennial College, which serves eastern Metro Toronto.



Marion Boyd

Fiscal outlook

On October 2, Ontario Treasurer Floyd Laughren announced mid-year adjustments to the provincial spending plan that will help the province meet its budgetary targets and foster economic recovery.

The province is redirecting about \$600 million in this year's budget, or about one per cent of the total budget. This includes a \$100 million reduction in operating budgets; \$40 million in savings by ministries that absorb a portion of their current salary budgets; and \$460 million in redirected spending based on a range of savings opportunities.

"These measures will enable us to keep our budget expenditures at \$52.8 billion and will help us further our goal of encouraging renewal in this province," said Mr. Laughren. He said the province continues to be committed to a deficit target of \$9.7 billion.

"The recession has had a major economic impact on Ontario and placed enormous pressures on government spending," Mr. Laughren said.

He noted that almost one million Ontarians today rely on social assistance, and that pressures on the provincial budget include \$240 million in additional spending for social assistance.

"Expenditure management has been made even more difficult by the federal government's capping of transfer payments, which resulted in a shortfall of \$1.6 billion this year."

For its part, the Ministry of Community and Social Services has identified savings of about \$12 million for 1991-1992, of which \$11 million will come from the ministry's direct operating expenses. The ministry will also participate in government-wide program reviews designed to ensure that spending is in line with the government's goal to be more efficient and effective in the delivery of programs and services.

Long-term care funding announced

Interim funding arrangements for nursing homes and charitable homes for the aged were announced October 4 by Health Minister Frances Lankin and then Minister of Community and Social Services Zanana Akande.

The funding provides \$37.9 million to these facilities — \$12.1 million during the balance of the current fiscal year and \$25.8 million between April and December 1992.

Next in the redirection of long-term care is to proceed with complete province-wide classifications of residents as the next step to implementing a new funding formula for nursing homes and homes for the aged in 1993.

The classification system is based on a system developed in Alberta and adapted for use in Ontario that measures the nursing and personal care requirements of residents of nursing homes, homes for the aged and chronic care hospitals.

Proposal for a social charter

On September 20, Premier Bob Rae released a discussion paper entitled *A Canadian Social Charter: Making Our Shared Values Stronger*.

"This document shows Ontario residents how some of our country's most important achievements, like medicare and universal education, can be protected and guaranteed," said the premier.

Mr. Rae said that a social charter would build on the entrenched values, objectives and rights of Canadians already in the Constitution, which help to ensure that they live in a society which matches their ideals of justice and equity.

The discussion paper outlines:

- the main features of Canada's social programs as developed within a federal structure;
- roles that governments play in developing, financing and administering social programs;
- the four elements which could form the basis of a social charter; namely, entrenched principles, institutions for implementation, public participation and a commitment to national sharing;
- a variety of options for elaborating on how these four elements might be defined and entrenched in the Constitution.

Background studies providing comparative information on how other countries deal with social challenges are available from the Ministry of Inter-

governmental Affairs. The studies demonstrate, for example, that more than 55 of the world's countries include social rights such as health care, social assistance and social security in their constitutions. Copies may be obtained from: Ministry of Intergovernmental Affairs, Communications Branch, 6th Floor, Mowat Block, Toronto, Ont. M7A 1C2; phone (416) 325-4760.

Individuals and organizations wishing to present their views on a social charter for Canada should write to: Select Committee on Ontario in Confederation, Room 1521, Whitney Block, Queen's Park, Toronto, Ont. M7A 1A1.

Good citizenship

The 1991 Ontario Medals for Good Citizenship in recognition of outstanding contributions to society have been awarded to:

Anne Coy, Toronto — founder of the Patients' Rights Association

Bill and Sally Francis, Oshawa — established St. Vincent's Kitchen

Donald Harvey, Willowdale — ski guide and coach for people who are blind

Willa Jones, Thunder Bay — community worker and initiator of the Friends of Refugees Committee

T. Fred Kingsmill, London — businessman who has spearheaded a program to provide hospital beds, wheelchairs and other hospital equipment for people who are ill at home

Gerald Loughheed, Sudbury — founder of the Bereavement Foundation of Sudbury and the Palliative Care Task Force for the region

Mark MacDonald, Cornwall — firefighter, chairs the Muscular Dystrophy campaign and works in the ABLE program, a buddy system assisting people with developmental disabilities

Donald McLean, Sudbury — Sudbury fire chief, founder of Sports North, which fosters sports participation in young people and assists children with disabilities

Annie Percival, North Bay — initiated a soup kitchen and started the North Bay Food Bank

Tammy Rankin, Hamilton — 20-year-old university student who has been an active volunteer and community worker with children's programs since she was 15

Peter Sherk, Scarborough — 19-year-old university student, volunteer worker with the Scott Mission, the CNIB, and Stop 103 Food Bank

Lucie Trow, Thornhill — founder of Performing Arts, York Region, an outlet for outstanding young musicians which also provides entertainment for senior citizens in retirement homes and continuing care centres.

Human Rights initiatives

On September 24, Minister of Citizenship Elaine Ziemba announced a strategy to resolve the backlog of cases at the Ontario Human Rights Commission (OHRC) and strengthen the Commission's ability to manage cases effectively.

Funding of \$6.4 million over three years has been allocated to "restore the equilibrium of the OHRC," said a news release. As of June 1991, the Commission had a caseload of 2,590 formal complaints.

The OHRC's regional offices will continue to investigate cases already assigned to officers, as well as deal with new complaints.

A special team of 33 investigators and conciliators will work on eliminating the backlog of unassigned cases over six months old, giving priority to the most urgent cases.

People on the move

Emily Goss is the new MCSS district manager in Kenora.

Sue Braun is district manager in Thunder Bay.

Coming up

April 27-30, 1992 Prevention Congress V — Healthy and Supportive Communities: The Promise of Change, London, Ont. Workshops on health, social services, education, housing, literacy, the environment, community development and multicultural and native issues. More information: The Ontario Prevention Clearinghouse, 984 Bay Street, Suite 603, Toronto M5S 2A5. Fax: (416) 928-5975.

Regional news

A roundup of MCSS funding for community agencies

The following announcements were made in September. The city in each heading is the location of the ministry office which works with the agency receiving the funds.

North

Sault Ste. Marie

Young people involved with substance abuse and those at risk in Sault Ste. Marie will continue to receive help, thanks to a grant of \$29,792 to the Breakaway Sault Ste. Marie Drug Abuse Society to assist in providing prevention programs.

North Bay

Young people in conflict with the law in the North Bay area will receive support, counselling and encouragement in a new secure custody facility to be built in the city. The Nipissing Children's Aid Society will receive \$3.6 million to build and operate the facility.

Southeast

Kingston

Children and families in the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville will be served from new, expanded offices of the Leeds & Grenville Children's Aid Society, with help from a \$350,000 grant. The agency will use some of the funds to establish a Prescott sub-office.

Residents in a program for adults dealing with the effects of substance abuse will benefit from a grant of \$17,522 to Serenity House in Belleville for renovations and improvements.

Children in the Corbyville Children's Home, and the local economy, will benefit from a grant of \$350,000 for renovations. The home is an open custody and detention facility for children aged 12 to 15 who have come in conflict with the law.

Belleville

Families in Hastings County will benefit from a \$15,000 operating grant to the Children's Nursery Centre — Marmora, to develop child care and family resource services in the county.

Peterborough

Working families requiring child care in Peterborough will receive a boost as a result of \$60,000 in funding for a new 31-space in-school child care centre at St. Patrick's Elementary School.

People in the Burleigh Falls area will benefit from a grant of \$48,000 to the Lovesick Lake Native Women's Association to co-ordinate counselling and other services to native and non-native citizens.

Children and families of the Alderville First Nation will have access to a variety of child welfare services such as counselling and prevention programs, as a result of annual funding of \$100,450.

A total of 31 youngsters in Fenelon Falls will receive care as a result of \$75,000 for a new in-school child care centre operated by Bobcaygeon Nursery School and Day Care at Langton Public School.

Southwest

London

Up to 109 children in London have two new in-school child care centres in which to play and learn. London Children's Connection Inc. and Fanshawe College will receive a total of \$204,632 to establish and equip the centres.

People with developmental disabilities and their families in **Middlesex County**, excluding London, will receive improved services, thanks to \$150,000 shared by **Family Service London** and the **Strathroy and Area Association for Community Living**.

Waterloo

Children and families in **Kitchener-Waterloo** will be served by funding of \$23,000 to the **Kitchener-Waterloo YWCA** for two new school-age child care programs.

Ten adults in northern **Wellington County** will meet the challenge of community living as a result of new funding of \$500,000 to the **Guelph Wellington Association for Community Living**, to acquire or build two new residences.

Hamilton

Parents and their children in **Hamilton** will benefit from grants of \$68,570 for the new **Helen Detwiler Children's Centre**, an in-school child care centre caring for 62 children.

Up to 47 children in **Brantford** will enroll in a new in-school child care centre, established by the **Council on Continuing Education for Brant District** with \$76,650, at the new Banbury Heights Elementary School.

Central

Barrie

The **Canadian Forces Base Borden Family Services Centre** will receive a \$24,000 grant to help establish a parent/child drop-in and resource centre.

Mississauga

People with Alzheimer disease and those who care for them will receive enhanced services through a new centre in **Burlington**. The **Alzheimer Society of Halton-Wentworth** will use \$50,000 to establish an education/resource centre.

People with physical disabilities in **Oakville** will be transported to medical and other appointments in a new van, thanks to \$45,000 for the **Red Cross Society of Oakville**. The vehicle is a specially-designed, lift-equipped van for people with physical disabilities.

Five people with developmental disabilities will live in a home they can call their own in **Oakville**. **Christian Horizons** will receive \$345,750 annually to operate the home, known as **Horizon House**.

People in **Dufferin County** with developmental disabilities, including infants and adults, will benefit from grants totalling \$55,000 to the **Children's Aid Society of Dufferin County** for enhanced services.

Children and child care providers in the **Orangeville** area will benefit from \$18,224 to the **Dufferin Children's Resource Centre** to purchase a new van. The vehicle will serve as a mobile child care resource centre and toy-lending library.

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NEWS



NOVEMBER 1991 • VOLUME 1 • NUMBER 7

Long-term care consultation begins

An Ontario-wide public consultation on long-term care was launched October 31 with the release of a public consultation paper, *Redirection of Long-Term Care and Support Services in Ontario*.

The announcement was made in three locations. Minister of Health Frances Lankin, who is now responsible for long-term care initiatives, announced the consultation process at Providence Manor Home for the Aged in Kingston. MCSS Minister Marion Boyd made the announcement on behalf of the Health Minister in the Ontario Legislature; and Minister of Citizenship Elaine Ziemba made a similar announcement at Copernicus Lodge in Toronto.

Redirection of long-term care is intended to place increased emphasis on community-based services, to enable elderly people and people with physical disabilities to remain in their own homes for as long as possible.

The paper sets out government principles, goals and priorities for the redirection of long-term care and raises issues for public discussion.

"Broadly based consultation is essential," said Ms. Lankin, "if we are to restructure the long-term care system so that it is more responsive to the needs of Ontario's elderly people, people with physical disabilities and their families."

In her statement to the Legislature, Marion Boyd said: "Our purpose is to review the proposed redirection of long-term care through discussion with the people who use long-term care services, their caregivers, and workers in the long-term care system."

The comprehensive consultation will involve people who need services and their families; advocates and caregivers; labour and women's groups; health and social services providers and planners;

cultural, linguistic and racial groups; the federal, provincial and municipal governments; and other interested groups and individuals. The special needs of Aboriginal peoples and the francophone community will be recognized in the consultation.

The process will include both local and provincial meetings. At the local level, the 14 Community Health and Support Services area offices will assist communities in developing consultation plans that will enable their members to participate fully. This may involve seminars, workshops, and meetings with residents and families at nursing homes and other facilities.

The consultation paper reflects the provincial government's new directions for long-term care announced in June. Directed at minimizing the use of institutions and maximizing secure and stable home, family and community living, they include:

- an integrated approach to provincial management of all long-term care health and social services;

(Continued on page 2)

What is long-term care?

Long-term care and support services cover an array of services in a variety of settings, including:

- health, personal care, support and respite services in people's homes;
- community support services, such as Meals on Wheels, transportation, security checks, friendly visiting and day programs;
- Alzheimer community programs and supportive living programs;
- long-term care homes and hospitals.

The current plan for redirection of long-term care services focuses on two groups: elderly people and people with disabilities.

(Long-term care consultation continued)

- a large expansion in funding for community support services;
- better co-ordination of services;
- assurance of greater community participation;
- realignment of funding policies to reduce regional disparities; and
- increased funding for supportive housing.

It is expected that the consultation process will last at least four months and will lead to legislative changes.

For copies of the consultation paper, contact:
The Health Information Centre
Ministry of Health
8th Floor, 80 Grosvenor Street
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1S2
Phone: (416) 327-4327
Fax: (416) 327-4389.

Wife assault prevention month

"Wife assault: No man has the right" is the theme of a wife assault prevention campaign launched November 4 by Marion Boyd, Minister responsible for Women's Issues.

November is Wife Assault Prevention Month. It is the first month of the three-month campaign, which includes television and radio commercials, newspaper ads and public service announcements.

"Public education is absolutely essential if we are to prevent wife assault," said Ms. Boyd. "Victims of this violence need services, but unless we make a long-term investment in changing attitudes, the abuse will continue relentlessly."

The Ontario Women's Directorate has a variety of campaign materials available — posters, buttons, brochures and fact sheets on wife assault and violence against women with disabilities. For more information contact:

Publications Department
Ontario Women's Directorate
480 University Avenue, 2nd Floor
Toronto M5G 1V2
Phone: (416) 597-4605
TDD: (416) 597-4633
Fax: (416) 597-4594.

Family support plan

On October 31, Attorney General Howard Hampton announced that the new Family Support Plan will come into effect on March 1, 1992. The new plan will allow for the automatic deduction of support payments from income, and will be an important part in the fight against the poverty of women and children in Ontario.

"Part of our efforts to fight poverty and the abuse and neglect of women and children must be to highlight these injustices in our society and how they occur," said Mr. Hampton. "To that end the Government of Ontario is launching a public awareness campaign which outlines the social and economic costs of unpaid family support."

Starting November 4, a three-month campaign will run on television, in newspapers and on transit and mall boards, with the message: "Pay your Family Support. There's no excuse not to."

More than \$400 million in support payments are currently unpaid. Families who should have received support payments have turned to social assistance, at a cost of \$140 million to the province since 1987.

The new Family Support Plan will require employers to deduct support payments from an employee's income and forward those payments to the Family Support office for distribution to support recipients and their children. The deduction of support will be similar to the way income tax is collected through payroll deduction.

People on the move

MCSS Minister Marion Boyd's staff:
Nuzhat Jafri is executive assistant.

Special assistants:

Chris Ewasiuk, Constituency & Outreach

Christa Freiler, Policy

Phil Shaw, Communications

Virginia Turner, Policy

Laura Ziemba, Legislative.

General assistants:

Graham Brown, Policy

Ellen Cajucom, Legislative, Constituency & Outreach

Claire Chretien, Scheduling

Althea Cocking, Communications.

Tazim Hassam is the minister's executive secretary.

Dan Hamelin is the minister's driver.

Non-profit housing

Housing Minister Evelyn Gigantes announced October 7 that 60 groups have been given the go-ahead to draw up plans for 3,356 non-profit homes in 38 municipalities across the province.

These community-based groups are the first to be selected to produce non-profit housing as part of the Ontario Non-Profit Housing Program announced in last spring's provincial budget. "Our goal is to provide 10,000 housing units under this program," said Ms. Gigantes.

Those eligible to apply for this housing include families, senior citizens, single people, people with disabilities and refugee claimants.

Coming up

April 22-25, 1992 Independence '92, an international congress and exposition which will mark the end of the Decade for Disabled Persons. Location: Vancouver. More than 4,000 people from 80 countries are expected to attend. More information: Independence '92, Suite 200, 1190 Melville Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6E 3W1. Phone (604) 689-5084; Fax (604) 689-4806; TDD (604) 691-2628.

Federal/provincial housing partnership

On October 10, the federal and provincial governments approved the development of more than 3,600 non-profit homes to be built or acquired in Ontario over the next two years.

These will be built by 79 non-profit groups in 52 municipalities under the federal/provincial non-profit housing program.

Elmer MacKay, Minister responsible for Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation and Ontario Housing Minister Evelyn Gigantes announced more than \$1.8 billion in federal and provincial subsidies for these homes.

Under the program, municipal, private and co-operative sponsor groups create affordable housing in their communities. People eligible for this housing include low-income families, senior citizens, single persons as well as people with disabilities who are able to live independently.

Regional news

A roundup of MCSS funding for community agencies

The following announcements were made in October. The city in each heading is the location of the ministry office which works with the agency receiving the funds.

Southeast

Ottawa

Up to five people with developmental disabilities will live in a new home in **Cumberland Township**. **Christian Horizons** will receive \$574,249 to establish and operate the program.

Child care for 39 children in **Cumberland** is resulting from grants of \$111,264 to **River Parkway Pre-School Centre** to establish a child care centre at the new Sir Wilfrid Laurier High School.

The **Seniors Support Centre (Osnabruck)** in **Ingleside** officially opened October 18. Seniors in Ingleside and the Township of Osnabruck will have a full range of community residential alternatives and support services available to them. MCSS provided \$300,000 toward the construction of the building. This year's operating funding from the ministry is \$69,000.

The **Pembroke and District Association for Community Living** received \$23,958 to study the community integration needs of **Renfrew County** pre-school children with developmental disabilities and their families.

People with developmental disabilities in **Renfrew County** will receive support and encouragement to live as productively as possible in their own communities. The **Pembroke and District Association for Community Living** will receive \$326,617 for each year of a two-year pilot project providing support services to individuals and families with children who have developmental disabilities.

Southwest

Waterloo

Children enrolled in the **Hildegard Marsden Co-operative Day Nursery** will enjoy new playground equipment, thanks to a \$38,000 grant. This child care centre is on the University of Waterloo campus.

Hamilton

Starting in September, 42 children began attending the new **Hamilton Public Library Workplace Child Care Centre**. Their parents work at the library, various levels of government, or live in the community. MCSS provided \$159,501 toward renovations and equipment.

St. Catharines

Seniors in **Jarvis** and surrounding communities now have a wide variety of recreational and social programs, with the launch of a seniors' day program at the Leisure Living Complex. **Haldimand/Norfolk Community Seniors Support Services Inc.** will receive \$35,000 annually toward the new program's operations.

Central

Barrie

Francophone children in **Orillia** are receiving care at **La Garderie des Amis de Samuel** in the new **Ecole Samuel-de-Champlain**, which has received \$67,655 in start-up funding.

Mississauga

Young people with emotional or psychological difficulties in **Halton Adolescent Support Services'** 10-bed residence in **Burlington**, will receive further care services, thanks to an additional \$60,000 annually for additional staff. Ministry assistance to the agency totals approximately \$1.9 million annually.

Youth in **Peel Region** will benefit from funding of \$26,088 for a needs assessment by **Nexus Youth Services**, which provides counselling services to adolescents aged 12 to 16 who experience personal and/or family problems.

Peel Region children who are developmentally delayed, and their families, will benefit from funding of \$80,000 to relocate the **Peel Infant Development Program** to larger, more efficient quarters.

Toronto

Parents and other caregivers in the **Orchard Grove Housing Co-op** and the surrounding community will have a new parent-child resource centre for information and education about child care. The **Cliffcrest Parent/Child Enrichment Centre**, **Scarborough**, will receive \$70,000 annually.

NEWS



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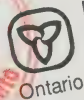
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Ontario

NEWS

DECEMBER 1991/JANUARY 1992 • VOLUME 1 • NUMBER 8

Child care wage enhancements and conversion

Staff in non-profit child care services will be receiving wage enhancements of up to \$2,000 each within the next few weeks, Minister Marion Boyd announced December 2nd. The enhancements will be paid from the \$30 million fund announced last January and will be pro-rated and retroactive to January 1, 1991.

Boyd also announced a strategy to encourage for-profit child care services to convert to non-profit status. Mrs. Boyd said the government has a long-standing policy that taxpayers' dollars are best spent on non-profit child care and that the government continues to work toward pay equity solutions for all low-waged women workers.

Pending child care reform, \$75 million will be targeted over the next five years for a variety of purposes for the child care service sector. These initiatives will be designed to facilitate the conversion of for-profit child care operations to non-profit services and to strengthen the non-profit sector.

Estimated gross expenditures will include:

- \$16 million for non-profit organizations to buy the toys and equipment from for-profit child care services wishing to convert to non-profit;
- \$31 million to staff of child care services that have converted so they receive the benefit of full direct operating grants and wage enhancements;
- \$10 million for replacement of for-profit services that may close as opposed to converting;
- \$10.8 million to assist non-profit services currently in financial difficulty because of declining enrolment;

For-profit centres that convert to non-profit status will be eligible for enhanced government

funding. Those for-profit centres currently receiving direct operating grants will continue to do so and those that currently have subsidy contracts with municipalities will continue to be eligible for subsidy payments.

However, after January 1, 1992, any new subsidies should be directed to non-profit child care programs unless the municipality is able to show the ministry that non-profit child care is unavailable. As well, the ministry will develop mechanisms to ensure that parents with children in for-profit centres have access to financial and program information.

Mrs. Boyd added that the government recognizes the considerable contribution the for-profit child care sector has made and continues to make in this province.

FACTS

Child care in Ontario

	For-Profit	Non-Profit
Licensed Spaces	29,273	79,593
Number of Centres	645	2,205
Staff (Estimated)	4,500	14,500
Average Salary (Estimated)	\$15,000	\$19-21,000

Welfare rates increase

Marion Boyd has announced rate increases for Ontario's two social assistance programs, Family Benefits Allowance (FBA) and General Welfare Assistance (GWA).

There will be a two per cent increase in basic allowance for individuals receiving assistance, and a six per cent increase in the maximum shelter allowance. This six per cent increase will be implemented in two stages, with the first three per cent

increase in January 1992, and the second three per cent in July 1992.

"We have arrived at these increases bearing in mind the numbers of vulnerable people in Ontario who must turn to welfare for support; a record number of Ontarians are now dependent on one form of social assistance or another," said Mrs. Boyd. "At the same time, our government must manage Ontario's economy responsibly without adding to the deficit.

"Our increase to basic allowance will help families and individuals pay for food and personal needs; the six per cent staged increase in the maximum shelter allowance will reflect Ontario's Rent Review guideline, and will help people meet the high cost of keeping a roof over their heads."

Restructuring of Ontario's training system

The Ontario government announced on November 28 that it plans to restructure the province's training system through the creation of a new board, provisionally called the Ontario Training and Adjustment Board (OTAB).

Minister of Skills Development Richard Allen said, "This new board will be a key component in rebuilding Ontario's economy. It will enable us to attract and sustain much-needed investment in our province.

Allen released *Skills to Meet the Challenge: A Training Partnership for Ontario*, a paper that will provide the basis for province-wide discussion on the structure and mandate of the new board. The board will be an autonomous agency of the provincial government with the authority to make design and funding decisions on publicly-funded training and adjustment programs and services.

OTAB will be led by business, labour, training providers and community/social action groups. While the provincial government will be responsible for ensuring that the board's initiatives respond to government policies and commitments, the board will have responsibility for:

- workplace and sectoral training;
- apprenticeship programs and services;
- labour force adjustment programs and services; and
- labour force entry/re-entry programs.

OTAB will assume responsibility for the management of existing programs in a phased way, and government staff responsible for those functions will be transferred to OTAB.

Part of OTAB's structure will be a network of "local boards" that will be responsible for identi-

fying and planning how to respond to training needs in their areas.

Native child care

On November 8, Minister Marion Boyd announced that Ontario's First Nations will receive \$8.8 million over the next three years to improve child care on their reserves.

The \$8.8 million includes five million dollars available over the next 18 months for new construction projects and renovations to existing buildings. Four hundred licensed, subsidized child care spaces will be created over a two-year period starting in 1992. The federal government will share in the cost of operating these spaces.

Economic benefits of this initiative were stressed by the minister and include construction jobs and on-going employment for people operating the child care programs.

The ministry will work with individual First Nations and their umbrella organizations throughout the province to review up-coming projects.

Funding for supervised access centres

Funding will be made available for 10 centres to provide supervised access services as part of a two-year pilot project, announced November 20 by Attorney General Howard Hampton and Women's Issues Minister Marion Boyd.

"Supervised access services will offer separated families a safe, neutral and child-focused setting in which visits between a child and parent or other family member can take place," said Mr. Hampton.

The pilot project will evaluate the need for supervised access services across Ontario and test different methods of delivering these services.

The centres, which will be run by local community boards, will receive up to \$100,000 per year to establish and operate supervised access services that will meet the unique needs of their particular communities.

They will assist separated families in carrying out access arrangements ordered by the court or agreed to by the parents in situations where there are concerns about the safety and well-being of the child, or where visits pose potential safety risks to the mother.

A Supervised Access Funding Advisory Committee, with members from different parts of the province, will be established by the Ministry of the Attorney General to consider requests for funding by interested community groups.

Employment Equity consultation launched

On November 5, Minister of Citizenship Elaine Ziemba and Employment Equity Commissioner Juanita Westmoreland-Traore launched a province-wide consultation that will give all of Ontario society an opportunity to participate in the development of employment equity legislation that is fair, effective and practical. The commissioner also released a discussion paper, *Working Towards Equality*, that will provide the framework for the consultations.

The commissioner will be inviting briefs and holding consultations in communities across Ontario. The consultations will run until the end of January.

A separate consultation is being initiated for the province's Aboriginal communities. It will be undertaken in the context of Aboriginal self-government.

Groups and individuals wishing to receive a copy of the discussion paper or participate in the consultation are invited to contact the Office of the Employment Equity Commissioner, 102 Bloor St. W., Suite 1040, Toronto, Ont. M7A 2R9. Phone (416) 965-4741; toll-free phone 1-800-668-7608; TDD (416) 965-3399; FAX (416) 324-6775.

Employment Accommodation Fund

The Employment Accommodation Fund will help to fund items or services required by Ontario Public Service employees with disabilities and job applicants with disabilities, to maximize their contribution and participation in employment, as well as their ability to compete for jobs.

Items and services provided through the fund include (but are not limited to) the following:

- human support services, such as attendants, job coaches, sign language and oral interpreters, intervenors, readers and clerical support;
- communication services, such as captioning, conversion of print to braille, audio tapes or enlarged print;
- technical aids and devices, such as environmental control units, hoists, grips, Telephone Devices for the Deaf (TDDs), infrared systems, etc.;
- workstation modifications, such as specialized or adjustable furniture, signs with raised or braille lettering, modified lighting, flashing signals and handrails;
- building modifications, such as retrofitted washrooms, automatic doors, alarm systems, etc.;

- accessible transportation for employment-related activities that are held outside the place where work is routinely performed.

There are several items or services which are not covered by the fund, such as building modifications which are the responsibility of the Ministry of Government Services, items or services costing less than \$100, and items or services required for activities of daily living, among others.

For more information about the fund, contact the Employment Equity Unit, Human Resources Branch, 2 Bloor St. W., 23rd floor, Toronto M4W 3J4. Phone (416) 327-4814; Fax (416) 327-0561.

Coming up

January 20 - 22, 1992 Employment Equity Congress. Minister of Citizenship Elaine Ziemba will speak on the future of employment equity in Ontario. Royal York Hotel, Toronto.

More information: 1-800-461-2398.

People on the move

Fred Koch is the new administrator of Prince Edward Heights, Picton.

Paul Kovacs, MCSS economics adviser, is on a seven-month assignment as director of Social Economics and Strategic Issues at the Ministry of Treasury and Economics.

Regional news

A roundup of MCSS funding for community agencies

The following announcements were made in November. The city in each heading is the location of the ministry office which works with the agency receiving the funds.

Southeast

Ottawa

The **ODAWA Native Friendship Centre in Ottawa**, will receive \$48,537 in one-time funding to cover the initial operating costs of a Private Home Day Care program. The program will serve up to 33 Native children.

Kingston

A capital grant of \$720,000 will be given to **Family and Children's Services of Lennox and Addington** toward the construction of a new building in **Napanee**. In its new premises, the organization will be able to strengthen its range of services and offer them to more families.

Southwest

Windsor

Up to 25 people with developmental disabilities in **Lambton county** will receive assistance with pre-employment training, skills development and on-the-job support thanks to \$145,000 in annual funding. The **Lambton County Association for the Mentally Handicapped** will use the money to hire job coaches and support staff for this supported employment initiative.

Sarnia

A new child care centre will open in **Sarnia-Clearwater** with a \$54,000 grant. This funding will enable **Imperial Day Care Centre** to buy new toys and equipment and assist them in covering administrative start-up costs.

Hamilton

La Petite Étoile de Niagara Co-operative Inc., received one-time funding of \$11,568 to establish a child care centre for francophone children. The centre is located at École Ste.-Antoine in **Niagara Falls**.

Adult students attending **Herman E. Fawcett Secondary School** in **Brantford** will be able to take advantage of an on-site child care centre. The new centre, made possible with one-time funding of \$56,301, allows parents to continue their education during the day while their children receive care in the same school.

Children and families on the Six Nations of the Grand River Reserve in **Ohsweken** will receive expanded and enhanced social services programs that will address issues such as parenting, child care, and substance abuse. The **Six Nations Band Council** will receive \$745,200 annually over six years as part of Native Child Welfare Initiative funding. Part of the money will be used to construct a building to house services under one roof and to build a 10 bed group home for Native adolescents.

Central

Mississauga

The **YMCA of Metropolitan Toronto**, the **Peel Lunch and After School Program**

(**PLASP**), and **Family Day Care Services** received grants totalling \$529,093 to create six new in-school child care centres in **Mississauga**.

Forum Italia Day Care Non-Profit Inc. received start-up funding of \$49,917 to open a new child care centre in **Mississauga**.

Toronto

Job coaches will be hired with a total of \$318,939 in annual funding to **Goodwill Industries, Jewish Vocational Services, the Corbrook Workshop** and the **March of Dimes** in **Toronto**. The job coaches will provide employment training and on-the-job support to people with disabilities.

Vita Community Services in **Toronto** will use \$148,738 in annual funding to provide support services to people with developmental disabilities moving into a new apartment building in their community.

NEWS



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NEWS



Ministry of
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Ontario

FEBRUARY 1992 • VOLUME 2 • NUMBER 1

Transfer Payment announcement

The Ontario government is encouraging a province-wide public debate on how to better manage costs and preserve jobs and services. On January 21, Ontario Treasurer Floyd Laughren released the Ontario Fiscal Outlook, a document containing detailed information about the province's financial situation, and asking for written submissions from groups and individuals relating to the 1992 Ontario budget.

This more open approach is being introduced to encourage informed public debate about the decisions the province is facing.

Mr. Laughren also announced a three-year transfer payment funding escalation of one, two and two per cent of base budgets annually, beginning in the 1992/93 fiscal year.

Discussions are currently taking place within the government regarding the ministry's 1992/93 budget, which includes discussions of the base budgets of the various social service sectors. The multi-year announcement was made to allow all funding partners to make plans with some added predictability about the fiscal environment.

Minister Marion Boyd and Deputy Minister Charles Pascal outlined the situation: "The situation is serious. For the first time since the Great Depression, provincial revenues are declining while demands for service escalate at an unprecedented rate. Now is the time to consolidate service delivery capabilities and set clear priorities.

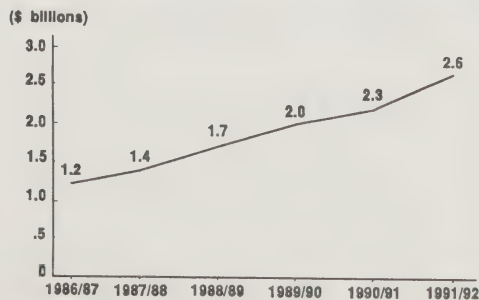
"There will be difficult decisions and choices to make. Creative solutions must be found to restructure social services and do everything possible to preserve services and jobs within this new reality."

The minister and deputy went on to say that the Ontario government and the Ministry of Community and Social Services fully intend to pursue the priorities of Child Care Reform, Income Maintenance Reform, Long Term Care and Family Violence.

As well, plans are under way to initiate a New Realities Vision Project. Under the leadership of a steering committee made up of MCSS staff and partners from outside the ministry, a plan will be developed for the design of a social services system that can meet the needs of the people of Ontario, within a context of major expenditure reduction.

FACTS

MCSS transfer payments to agencies



Note: 1991/92 figures are Printed Estimates

Preparing for change

MCSS Minister Marion Boyd and Deputy Minister Charles Pascal have announced some changes in the Ministry's corporate organization. These organizational changes are designed to put the Ministry in a better position to deal with the new realities facing the province of Ontario, Mrs. Boyd and Mr. Pascal said.

Planning for the implementation of these changes is continuing with the new structure and all senior appointments established by March 31st. The changes to the Ministry's corporate structure are being made within existing resources.

Detailed implementation planning is a collaborative process. Discussions on these changes to structure, functions and roles will build on existing organizational work.

The new management team comprises:

Jane Marlatt, Assistant Deputy Minister Policy and Program Development, Children, Family and Community Services

This division is devoted to the development of an integrated approach to children, families, and community services. It will ensure that the Ministry's front-line staff and external partners are engaged in developing programs and policies. In addition, strong linkages will continue to be forged with community-based services in ministries such as Health, Housing, and Education.

Shirley Hoy, Assistant Deputy Minister Policy and Program Development, Social Assistance and Employment Opportunity

This new division will be responsible for the development of policy and major reform of the social assistance system, with an emphasis on developing meaningful self-sufficiency for clients. The division will develop a strong and effective collaboration with the Ontario Women's Directorate and the new Ontario Training and Adjustment Board in order to support efforts toward improved skill development and training, labour force development, equity and work and family concerns.

Sandy Lang, Assistant Deputy Minister, Operations

The Operations Division of the Ministry will continue to play its ongoing role in program management and delivery. During the next year, there will be an examination of the divisional structure to determine the best way of ensuring compatibility with the new corporate organization and government policy reform initiatives.

Judith Wright, Assistant Deputy Minister, Strategic Directions

This newly structured division will provide the Ministry with a strengthened capacity for long-term planning, research, broad-based policy framework development, and participation in native affairs, inter-governmental and international activities. The division will manage the New Realities Vision project, a project designed to generate a shared vision for social services and will work to develop strategic policy for such issues as accountability, prevention, anti-poverty, native self-government and alternative funding mechanisms.

John Burkus, Assistant Deputy Minister, Financial Planning and Corporate Services

This division will reinforce a strategic and service-based Orientation to finance and administration. The Comprehensive Audit and Review Branch continues to operate in this division for administrative purposes. However, its direct reporting relationship to the Deputy Minister will be strengthened to ensure compliance with Government and Ministry practices and policies.

Assistant Deputy Minister, Human Resources and Organizational Development

A search is underway to fill this position. This newly established division will provide the Ministry with an opportunity to strengthen its capacity to develop staff and the Ministry's human resource policies, customer service and organizational effectiveness. In addition to internal human resource policies and practices, this division will be responsible for an integrated approach to human resource policies in conjunction with the broader public sector.

Timo Hytonen, Executive Coordinator, Information Systems and Applied Technology

Over the next 18 months, a collaborative review of the Ministry's technology systems and strategic information requirements will be undertaken to provide greater support to Ministry policies and directions. This will result in a re-alignment of these functions.

Michael Kurts, Director, Communications and Marketing

The Communications and Marketing Branch will continue to provide assistance and leadership for strategic communications management, creative services and community and media relations.

Andrea Walker, Director, Legal Services

The Legal Services Branch will continue to manage all legal counsel to the Ministry, including litigation, timely advice and proactive support to program development and policy reform.

In addition, MCSS staff working on the Re-Direction of Long Term Care will continue to report directly to the Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Health with an indirect reporting relationship to the Ministry of Community and Social Services. The Ministry of Health has also announced a structural reorganization with Michael Ennis as Assistant Deputy Minister, Population Health and Community Services Systems Group.

Ola Berg has accepted a new position with the Government's Management Board Secretariat as a senior consultant on strategic management and other broad corporate issues. Ola will continue to provide expertise and leadership to the strategic organizational needs of the Ministry as part of his new responsibilities.

The ministry welcomes. . .

Shirley Hoy

Shirley joins MCSS March 15. She has 11 years' experience with the Regional Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto where she spent six years heading up policy and planning divisions, and community services. She joins the ministry in a cross-assignment as ADM, Policy and Program Development, Social Assistance and Employment Opportunity, while maintaining her current ADM position with the Ontario Women's Directorate.

Judith Wright

Judith joins MCSS March 1, 1992 to assume her new responsibilities as Assistant Deputy Minister for Strategic Directions. She is currently Executive Co-ordinator, Social Policy in the Cabinet Office, and Secretary to the Cabinet Committee on Social Policy. She has a rich background in social policy development and public service administration with the federal government.

Health ministry re-organizes

Major organization changes to enable the Ministry of Health to implement new directions for health care in Ontario, were announced last month by Deputy Health Minister Michael Decter.

"These changes shift the emphasis of health care planning and policy toward community care, health promotion and disease prevention," Mr. Decter said.

"Health care costs must be brought under better control through reform of the health care delivery system," he added. "We must invest our resources to achieve the best possible health in individuals, families and communities."

Four new management groups now oversee ministry operations. They have replaced five former divisions. The new management structure includes:

- **Health System Management Group.** This consolidates programs traditionally associated with health care, including those dealing with hospitals, payments to doctors, drug programs and laboratory services;
- **Population Health and Community Services Systems Group.** This consolidates community services, long-term care, emergency services, health promotion and disease prevention programs;
- **Health Strategies Group.** It will create the policies and plans to shift toward preventive community care and away from hospital- and illness-based systems, and
- **Corporate Management and Support Group.** Provides administrative support to the other three management groups.

The deputy also announced a new **Economic Renewal Project** to explore ways of stimulating economic growth among Ontario's health care industries. It will examine how the ministry can encourage new investments in health care in Ontario. It will also study export possibilities for health care technology and expertise.

A new **Drug Reform Secretariat** will review the Health ministry's drug benefits program and examine ways to improve prescription drug use in the province.

FLS designation for nine agencies

Nine MCSS-funded agencies in northern and eastern Ontario have received official designation under the *French Language Services Act, 1986*.

The agencies are ACFO Rive-Nord Inc./Garderie Petit Trésor, Elliot Lake; Algoma District Social Services/Services Sociaux, Thessalon; Ottawa-Carleton Regional Residential Treatment (Roberts Smart Centre), and Centre parascolaire "La Clémentine" d'Ottawa, in Ottawa; the Children's Aid Society of the District of Sudbury and Manitoulin/La Société d'Aide à l'Enfance des Districts de Sudbury et Manitoulin, Sudbury; West Nipissing Child Care Corporation/Corporation des Services de Garde d'Enfants du Nipissing Ouest,

Sturgeon Falls; Les Compagnons des Francs Loisirs/Garderie Soleil, and Nipissing Children's Mental Health Services (Concordia Centre), in North Bay; and the Canadian Mental Health Association, Timmins Branch, for two of its programs funded by MCSS. The programs are the Black River Matheson Family Resource Centre, and the Community Outreach Program.

The designation of these agencies brings to 54 the number of FLS-designated agencies under MCSS, and 84 throughout the government.

The designation ensures francophone communities that a designated agency's services will be fully available in their own language, as well as being culturally appropriate. It also assures that the agencies' boards of directors and various levels of management have representation from the French-speaking community.

Immigration to Ontario

Immigration Statistics 1989 released by the Ministry of Citizenship in December, provide statistical support to recommendations in the Multiculturalism/Race Relations report, that Management Committee will be reviewing in the next few weeks.

1989 Immigration numbers

In 1989, 192,000 people came to Canada and 104,800, or 55% intended to settle in Ontario. This is the highest level of immigration since 1974 an increase of 18% over '88.

Workforce, family growth potential

The largest increase (male and female) were those between 25 and 39 years of age, and in 1989, 27% more in this age group came to Ontario.

Use of English or French

Over the latter half of the 1980s, an average 80% of the Refugee (those who cannot go back to their countries) and Designated (those within the quota from a country) class immigrants arrived in Ontario were unable to speak either official language.

People on the move

David Walker, formerly program supervisor at MCSS's Mississauga Area Office, is new Executive Assistant to Deputy Minister **Charles Pascal**.

John Argue is the new Executive Assistant to **Randy Hope**, who is Parliamentary Assistant to Minister **Marion Boyd**.

Coming up

March 27 - 30, 1992 Conference: Association of Early Childhood Education. Trent University (Otonabee College), Peterborough, Ontario. Call JoEllen Macmaster, (416) 487-3157.

April 1 - 3, 1992 Human Resources Professionals of Ontario. Annual conference. Metro Toronto Convention Centre. Need more info? Call (416) 923-2324.

April 27 - May 1, 1992 Behaviour Management Workshop. Five-day staff training. Chimo Hotel, Markham. For more information (416) 883-2270.

April 22 - 25, 1992 An International Congress and Exposition on Disability. Vancouver, B.C. (604) 689-5084.

Regional news

A roundup of MCSS funding for community agencies.

The following announcements were made in December and January. The city in each heading is the location of the ministry office which works with the agency receiving the funds.

North

Kenora

The Shoal Lake #39 First Nation Band will receive a capital grant of \$528,000 to build a new child care centre. The centre, expected to open in September, will accommodate up to 32 children.

Sault Ste. Marie

People in Sault Ste. Marie needing help in the job market, with social, educational and training services, will have a new "one stop" information and referral centre to assist them. The **Sault Ste. Marie Community & Information Career Centre** will receive \$235,475 in one-time and annual funding to establish the facility which is expected to open in March.

Southeast

Ottawa

Twelve Ottawa-area child care agencies shared a total of \$243,852 in one-time funding to improve services offered in French. The 12 agencies are: **Association des services préscolaires et parascolaires d'Ottawa-Carleton**, **Au Ballon Rouge**, **garderie des Petits**, **Cooperative Carrousel pour parents et enfants francophones Inc.**, **Sunflower Co-op Day Nursery Inc.**, in Ottawa; **Andrew Fleck Child Care Services**, in Vanier; **Centre de jour des Petits Poucets**, in

Cornwall; Centre Parascolaire des Pionnier, in Navan; Centre Préscolaire Coccinelle d'Orléans, in Gloucester; Garderie Le Carrousel, in Rockland; Garderie Soleil Des Petits de Hawkesbury, in Hawkesbury; Groupe Action pour l'enfant, la famille et la communauté, in Hawkesbury; Vankleek Hill Day Nursery, in Vankleek Hill.

Nelson House, a new 15 bed shelter for victims of wife assault, and their children, opened in Nepean, thanks to a provincial grant of \$181,366.

Peterborough

The Northumberland Children's Services Committee will receive a \$25,000 grant to conduct a planning study. The study will be administered by the Women In Crisis organization. It will assess and co-ordinate services and programs addressing the needs of children with social, emotional or behavioural difficulties and their families in Northumberland County.

More people with disabilities in Peterborough will be given a helping hand enabling them to continue living as independently as possible in their own homes. Kawartha Participation Projects will receive \$89,635 annually to enrich its outreach attendant care program. This funding is in keeping with the government's long-term care initiatives.

Southwest

Windsor

Capital funding of \$1.24 million will be used to construct the new and expanded Canadian Auto Workers (C.A.W.) Labour Community Child Care Centre in Windsor. The new centre will provide care for children of C.A.W. union members in the auto industry, and the community of Windsor.

Chatham

Children and their families in crisis, and young offenders will benefit from enhanced intervention services and new counselling programs. The Lester B. Pearson Centre in Chatham will use \$148,000 in annual funding to expand its intervention services and its program for young offenders.

London

The Stratford Area Association for Community Living will receive a capital grant of \$375,000 for repairs and renovations at the Eileen Langley Centre in Stratford. The upgrades will allow the centre to provide services more efficiently to people with developmental disabilities.

Hamilton

Late this fall, four people with developmental disabilities will move into a home they can call their own in Niagara Falls.

Community Living-Niagara Falls received a capital grant of \$170,400 toward the purchase of a group home for the individuals, along with about \$210,000 annually for operational costs.

As well, six people with developmental disabilities will share two homes in Fort Erie, thanks to capital grants totalling \$217,900 to Community Living-Fort Erie. The money will be used to construct a home to accommodate three of the people, and toward the purchase of a second residence.

Children and adolescents of the Mississaugas of the New Credit Reserve near Ohsweken, will benefit from a new Native Child Welfare Initiative to be carried out over a five-year period. The program will receive \$300,000 over the five years to cover the costs of operating and staffing the project.

The St. Catharines Association for Community Living will receive \$738,000 annually to provide support services for people with developmental disabilities moving into the community from the Hamilton area. The funding will cover residential support services as well as day program and life skills programs for the residents.

Starting in September, 42 children in Hamilton will have a new child care centre. The Hamilton YWCA received \$400,000 in capital funding to renovate existing space to create the centre.

Central

Mississauga

Four adults with developmental disabilities will be moving into their own home in the community in Burlington thanks to provincial funding. The Burlington Association for Community Living will receive a capital grant of \$368,000 to purchase a home and a specially-equipped van, and \$275,302 annually to operate residential and day programs.

The Chippewas of Nawash First Nations, Indian Band Council #27 near Cape Croker will receive \$797,300 for a new building for their child care programs. This funding is part of the \$8.8 million for First Nations child care announced last November. The band will also receive \$78,560 in annual funding to expand existing Native Child Welfare Services, and fiscal funding of \$96,932 to hire staff and develop and operate a resource centre and toy-lending library.

The Chippewas of Saugeen-Saugeen Band #29, near Southampton, will receive additional annual funding of \$61,259 to expand their Native Child Welfare Services which will include a toy-lending and resource library.

Family and Children's Services of the County of Dufferin will receive new annualized

funding of \$22,000 for its Infant Development Program. The money will help toward the assessment, development and implementation of the program for infants under 30 months of age who are developmentally delayed.

The **Milton Children and Youth Centre** will receive additional annual funding of \$33,775 for program expansion. The centre serves the community as a drop-in, toy-lending library, and learning centre.

The **Mary Centre of the Archdiocese of Toronto** received \$214,283 in annual funding to operate a group home for four people with developmental disabilities in **Bramalea**.

The **Brampton/Caledon Association for the Mentally Retarded** will receive a total of \$454,015 in capital and annualized funding. The money will go toward the purchase of a group home and to provide residential support services for people with developmental disabilities moving back into the Brampton community.

The **Mississauga Hospital** will receive \$254,000 towards the expansion of the Peel Infant Development Program and Behaviour Training Program. Young children with developmental delays and adults with developmental disabilities will benefit from the funding.

NEWS

Ministry of
Community and
Social Services
Ontario

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Ministry of
Community and
Social Services

Ontario

MARCH 1992 • VOLUME 2 • NUMBER 2

Child care reform consultation

The Ministry of Community and Social Services needs ideas from everyone interested in child care as it embarks on system reform.

The ministry's goal is to create a high-quality child care system that is affordable, accessible and well-managed.

Beginning in April, public consultation meetings will take place throughout the province so people can be heard and their views discussed. As well, there will be "round tables", at which diverse groups from both non-profit and for-profit sectors, as well as local governments to assist ministry personnel craft creative policies, leading to new legislation.

The non-profit sector will be preferred for future child care services for all who need them. The government has made it clear that the for-profit child care sector will not receive any additional public money.

The four principles guiding child care reform are

- Quality is the cornerstone of the child care system
- Child care services must be affordable
- Child care services must be accessible
- The child care system must be soundly managed.

FACTS

Public meetings to discuss reform are scheduled as follows:

London (Minister attending)	Friday, April 3
Windsor	Tuesday, April 7
Lindsay	Wednesday, April 15
Mississauga	Tuesday, April 21
Metro Toronto West	Wednesday, April 22
Timmins (English) (Minister attending)	Tuesday, April 28
Timmins (French) (Minister attending)	Tuesday, April 28
Sudbury (English)	Tuesday, May 5
Sudbury (French)	Tuesday, May 5
Metro Toronto North	Wednesday, May 6
Kenora	Tuesday, May 12
Thunder Bay	Wednesday, May 13
Ottawa (English) (Minister attending)	Tuesday, May 19
Ottawa (French) (Minister attending)	Tuesday, May 19
Metro Toronto Central	Wednesday, May 20
Welland (English)	Tuesday, May 27
Welland (French)	Tuesday, May 27
Barrie	Tuesday, June 2
Owen Sound	Wednesday, June 3
Hawkesbury (French)	Tuesday, June 9
Belleville	Wednesday, June 10
Metro Toronto East	Wednesday, June 17
Metropolitan Toronto (French)	Tuesday, June 23

For public consultation updates, local meeting sites and times, call toll-free
1-800-668-4688 (English) or
1-800-565-4688 (French) any time.

New seniors apartments in Mississauga

A ceremony marking the official opening of 77 apartments for senior citizens took place in Mississauga on February 23.

Edenwood Seniors Village, at 3061 Battleford Road, consists of 69 one-bedroom and eight two-bedroom apartments. Three of the units have been designed for residents with disabilities.

Some of the apartments are offered at market rent, but the majority are available to seniors with low to moderate incomes.

The apartments were developed under the Federal/Provincial Non-Profit Housing Program, with financial assistance provided by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, and the Ontario Ministry of Housing.

Subsidies from both governments are estimated at more than \$570,000 annually.

People on the move

Mary Kardos-Burton, former Acting Director, Human resources, has been appointed Director.

Regional News

A roundup of MCSS funding for community agencies

The following announcements were made in February. The city in each heading is the location of the ministry area and local office which works with the agency receiving the funds.

Southwest

Hamilton

The Bethesda Community Living Program in St. Catharines will receive \$182,595 in annual funding to expand its residential support program for people with developmental disabilities. Individualized support services will be provided for people moving from the Oxford Regional Centre and a larger Bethesda residence back into the community.

Central

Mississauga

Halton Support Services in Oakville will receive an additional \$35,000 annually to expand its respite program for people with developmental disabilities and their families.

People with developmental disabilities moving to **Oakville** from the Muskoka Centre in Gravenhurst will benefit from annual and one-time funding of \$502,047 to **Christian Horizons in Oakville**. A grant of \$300,000 will be used to purchase and renovate a home for the residents and annual funding of \$202,047 will provide them with residential support services and life skills programs.

Toronto

The Reena Foundation in Toronto will receive additional funding totalling \$1,380,586 to expand and enhance its support services for people with developmental disabilities. The money will allow the organization to expand its residential program to support 17 more adults, expand a day program for eight people with special needs, assist with parent relief and permit individualized programs for people with higher needs.

Coming up

May 27 - 30, 1992 Conference: Association of Early Childhood Education. Trent University (Otonabee College), Peterborough, Ontario. Call JoEllen Macmaster, (416) 487-3157. *(Note: The dates for this conference were incorrectly listed in the February issue of MCSS News. Our apologies for any inconvenience caused.)*

April 27 - May 1, 1992 Behaviour Management Workshop. Five-day staff training. Chimo Hotel, Markham. For more information (416) 883-2270.

April 22 - 25, 1992 An International Congress and Exposition on Disability. Vancouver, B.C. (604) 689-5084

June 29 - August 21, 1992. YWCA of Metropolitan Toronto. Pre-vocational paid work experience program for young people 16 - 24 years of age with physical disabilities. Call Sally Palmateer at (416) 961-8100 Ex. 324.

NEWS



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NEWS



Ministry of
Community and
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Ontario

APRIL 1992 • VOLUME 2 • NUMBER 3

Throne Speech: Investing in People

Investing in people is one of the key points of the Speech from the Throne, delivered on April 6th by Lieutenant-Governor Henry Jackman. "We are investing in the people and the economy of Ontario now to build a dynamic economy that treats all Ontarians fairly," said the speech.

The Throne Speech reported that details of a new training strategy will be announced in the next provincial budget. The strategy will put social assistance recipients and workers whose Unemployment Insurance has run out back to work. The plan will help create thousands of new jobs in growth areas of the private sector, particularly in small business, while providing new training opportunities.

As part of the strategy, the government will increase child care spaces available for working women.

Other initiatives announced in the Speech from the Throne include:

- the Ontario Training and Adjustment Board (OTAB) will be responsible for making the province of Ontario a leader in training. Through the board, representatives of labour, business and community groups will take responsibility for many training programs now run by government.
- pay equity will be extended to 400,000 women left out of the original legislation.
- employment equity legislation will be brought forward this session to help ensure the province makes the best use of all its people.

Ontario government, Native organizations to address Aboriginal family violence

The Ontario government and eight Aboriginal organizations have formed a partnership to address family violence in Native communities.

Eleven ministries, including MCSS, the Ontario Women's Directorate, and the Native Affairs Secretariat, will contribute a total of about \$670,000 over two years to participate in strategy development. Aboriginal organizations will hold community consultations on and off-reserve to decide future action and set priorities to combat family violence in Ontario Native communities. A steering committee made up of the 11 ministries and Aboriginal organizations will co-ordinate the community meetings.

"It's critical that Aboriginal people have the decision-making power to find culturally-appropriate solutions to family violence," said Marion Boyd, MCSS Minister, and minister responsible for women's issues. "In order to be practical, long-term strategies have to be developed by the people directly affected."

"This partnership is a reflection of our commitment to the government-to-government relations we share with Aboriginal people," added Native Affairs minister Bud Wildman.



Fair employment for people with developmental, physical disabilities; pilot projects end

People with developmental and physical disabilities are entitled to fairness in employment and jobs that are competitive, said MCSS Minister Marion Boyd.

"To that end, on April 30, this ministry will end the wage policy pilot projects set up in Thunder Bay and London in 1989 by the previous provincial government," she added. The pilot projects were designed to test proposed wage policy legislation and whether it would benefit those with disabilities to work in sheltered workshops and have supported employment.

"Wage policy legislation proposed by the previous government is not the best way to guarantee full community participation or competitive employment opportunities for people with developmental and physical disabilities," Mrs. Boyd said.

"We've considered the pilots' results along with discussions we've had with consumers and other interested organizations. This government now knows there are fairer, more effective ways to pursue its goals of employment equity and integrating people with developmental and physical disabilities into the community."

Anti-Drug Secretariat re-locates

The Anti-Drug Secretariat's policies and programs have been transferred to the Ministry of Health's **Population Health and Community Services System Group**, in the **Community Health Division**.

The move is part of the ministry's recent reorganization to accomplish its reforms in health care. Its work had been overseen previously by the Solicitor-General.

The chief contact is **Mary Shantz**, Office of Substance Abuse (416) 327-8856.

People on the move

Keith Baird has joined the minister's office as Special Assistant/Policy Adviser. He previously worked with the Ministry of Education. Keith's new responsibilities include work on the child care reform process, and disentanglement.

New apartments from Ministry of Housing

New homes have been announced by the Ministry of Housing for seniors, people with disabilities, families, singles and childless couples.

A sod-turning in Barrie marked the start of construction of 53 one-bedroom and seven two-bedroom apartments for seniors at 65 Amelia Street. Six apartments are designed for residents who have disabilities.

In Sudbury, a ceremony in March officially opened 56 apartments at 285 Lourdes Street. The majority are for people with low-to-moderate incomes, with eight designed for residents who have disabilities.

Construction will soon begin in Kanata on 45 apartments for families, singles, childless couples, seniors, and people with disabilities. The development, to be built at 485 Eagleson Road, is being constructed with financial assistance from the Ontario and federal governments.

Regional news

A roundup of MCSS funding for community agencies

The following announcements were made in March.

The city in each heading is the location of the ministry area and local office which works with the agency receiving the funds.

North

North Bay

The Child and Family Centre, District of Parry Sound will receive \$300,000 in annual funding to establish and operate a treatment residence for children with behavioural difficulties in the **Parry Sound** area.

The funding demonstrates the government's commitment to the welfare of children as a top priority.

Central

Mississauga

87 subsidized child care spaces will be provided in school-based centres throughout Peel Region thanks to \$448,864 in annual funding.

Marion Boyd, Minister of Community and Social Services, stated, "We are proceeding with this funding in the midst of the province's difficult financial situation because high quality child care remains a top priority of the provincial government."

Coming Up

Update: child care reform public meetings

Confirmed meeting sites for May:

Sudbury (French) - Tuesday, May 5: Civic Square Council Chambers, 200 Brady Street, Main Floor. 1:30 - 3:00 p.m., and 6:00 - 7:20 p.m.
Sudbury (English) - Tuesday, May 5: Civic Square Council Chambers, 3:20 - 5:00 p.m., and 7:40 - 9:30 p.m.

North York (Toronto) - Wednesday, May 6: Metro Separate School Board, 80 Sheppard Avenue East. 2:00 - 5:00 p.m., and 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Note: A meeting in **Sioux Lookout** has been added to the schedule, for **Thursday, May 14**.

For public consultation updates, local meeting sites and times, call toll-free 1-800-668-4688 (English) or 1-800-565-4688 (French) any time.

May 4, 1992 Conference: Alzheimer clients and caregivers. Royal Ottawa Hospital, Ottawa (613) 724-6525.

May 5 - 7, 1992 Conference: Alzheimer clients and caregivers. Marianhill, Pembroke, Ontario (613) 735-6838.

May 14, 15, 1992 Seminar: Toronto Adult Survivors of Rape and Child/Adolescent Sexual Abuse, by Dr. Patricia Resick. May 14: Ottawa, Holiday Inn, Market Square; May 15: Toronto, Skyline Airport Hotel, Dixon Road. Call 1-800-263-9312 or (613) 745-5153.

May 20, 1992 Cultural Diversities: Challenge to the Mental Health System. Recreation Hall, CPRI, Sanatorium Road, London, Ontario (519) 471-2540 Ex. 2074.

May 26 - 29, 1992 Annual Conference of Children's Mental Health Centres — Families: For Better For Worse. Kingston, Ontario. For information call (416) 921-2109.

May 27 - 30, 1992 Conference: Association of Early Childhood Education. Trent University (Otonabee College), Peterborough, Ontario. Call JoEllen Macmaster (416) 487-3157.

Barrier-free courts for people with disabilities

People with disabilities who need access to barrier-free courts can call a toll-free phone number to find the one nearest them. The number — 1-800-387-4456 — is operated by the Ontario Office for Disability Issues, for the Ministry of the Attorney General. "This government is committed to seeing the justice system adapt to the needs of all citizens in Ontario, and this must include providing court facilities which can accommodate people with impaired sight, hearing and mobility," said Attorney General Howard Hampton. "We hope the court information service will encourage people with disabilities to feel confident about coming forward and requesting suitable court facilities."

The program for barrier-free access includes both new court design and renovations to existing courts.



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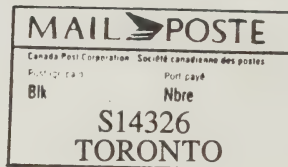
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NEWS



MAY 1992 • VOLUME 2 • NUMBER 4

Ontario Budget

The 1992 Ontario Budget lays out a plan to meet three priorities — commitment to essential public services, jobs and controlling the deficit, Treasurer Floyd Laughren announced April 30.

"One thing people have told us over and over was that they want us to preserve the health, education and social programs that have been the hallmark of our society," Mr. Laughren said.

Just under 70 per cent of the total provincial budget — \$38.3 billion — will be spent on essential services this year.

Reforms to the social assistance system will improve efficiency and curb cost increases. A variety of measures will save taxpayers more than \$300 million in this fiscal year.

Reliance on social assistance is also expected to be curbed by a new Jobs Ontario Training Fund, which will help thousands of people on social assistance move into the workforce. As part of Jobs Ontario, the Ministry of Community and Social Services will fund up to 20,000 new subsidized child care spaces for people participating in the program.

"We have made some changes in the way money is spent, but we will not change our ongoing commitment to the public services that Ontarians need and deserve," Mr. Laughren said.

The budget also indicates that:

- An additional \$100 million in funding for reforms in long-term care services for the elderly and people with disabilities will be provided.
- New tax credits will increase benefits for low-income seniors and tax benefits will end for seniors with a household income exceeding \$50,000.
- An additional \$238 million will help implement pay equity, raising pay equity assistance to \$285 million.

Mr. Laughren's budget also included three new programs that will help put people back to work.

The Jobs Ontario Training Fund is a three-year, \$1.1 billion project that will help create up to 100,000 new jobs for the unemployed and training for 80,000 others who are employed but need to upgrade their skills.

The Jobs Ontario Homes Fund will provide 20,000 new non-profit housing units and create 2,400 jobs over the next three years.

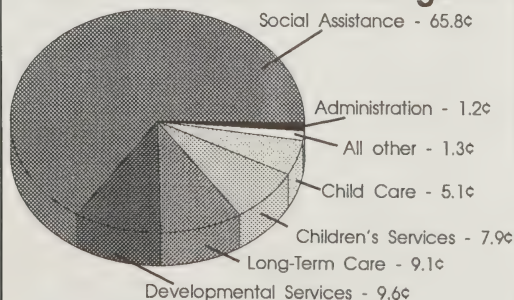
The Jobs Ontario Capital Fund is a \$2.3 billion capital renewal program that will generate 9,800 jobs over the next five years.

"This budget is about putting people back to work," Mr. Laughren said. "It's also about making our money work harder and better so that all Ontarians can share in a prosperous future."

The growth in overall government spending this year will be reduced by more than \$3 billion to help pay for job programs and control the deficit. The 4.9 per cent increase in total spending this year is the lowest since 1953.

FACTS

Where the MCSS dollar goes



Reducing social assistance costs

The Ministry of Community and Social Services is introducing measures designed to help reduce social assistance costs by more than \$300 million over the next year.

Minister Marion Boyd recently announced plans to hire 450 additional provincial social assistance staff to help more people find employment and pursue other sources of income support, along with changes to the Supports to Employment Program (STEP) so that fewer people of moderate income qualify for social assistance benefits.

"We are confident these measures will reduce costs while protecting the integrity of the social assistance system and the government's commitment to reform," said Mrs. Boyd.

With more than one million people relying on social assistance at a cost projected to reach over \$6 billion this fiscal year, the minister said it is important to help people move into the workforce; to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the system; and to ensure that alternate sources of income, such as Unemployment Insurance, Canada Pension, and child support, are received by those who qualify.

She said the 450 new staff, at a cost of about \$18 million, will be targeted to areas of the province where the growth in the numbers of people receiving family benefits has been greatest.

The new staff will work to assess the training needs and employment potential of applicants and clients and direct them to training and employment programs, such as the new Jobs Ontario Training Fund; reduce fraud in the system; recover overpayments paid to clients who have left social assistance; expand the voluntary program of direct cheque deposit; and assist eligible people to secure support from other sources.

Changes to the eligibility requirements of STEP will affect only moderate income earners applying for social assistance. For people already on STEP or already receiving social assistance, there will be no change to the program.

Jobs Ontario Training Fund

Includes up to 20,000 child care spaces

The new Jobs Ontario Training Fund will provide thousands of jobs for people on social assistance, and people whose unemployment insurance benefits have run out. It will also include up to 20,000 new subsidized child care spaces for people participating in the program.

The three-year, billion-dollar initiative announced by Minister of Skills Development Richard Allen recently, will create 32,000 jobs in communities across Ontario over the next year.

An important element of the program is the Ministry of Community and Social Services' commitment to spend up to \$324 million to fund the spaces.

MCSS Minister Marion Boyd said a shortage of affordable child care can be a major barrier to training and employment for parents; therefore, the ministry will provide 100 per cent funding of approved costs for new child care fee subsidies to be initiated during the three years of the program.

Normally, MCSS provides 80 per cent of the funding for child care fee subsidies, with municipalities, approved corporations, or First Nations communities responsible for the remaining 20 per cent.

"With this funding support, we will lift the fiscal pressure on municipalities and other funding partners. This is a key part of our commitment to meeting the child care needs of people participating in the Jobs Ontario Training Fund, and a reflection of our overall commitment to child care as a way of helping Ontarians get back to work," said Mrs. Boyd.

Volunteer of the Year

Toula Kourgiantakis, 21, of Newmarket, has been chosen most outstanding volunteer in community services for 1991.

Toula has been a volunteer with Child and Family Services of York Region since 1989, where she has been performing six volunteer roles. She recently completed her Bachelor's degree, and is currently working on her Master's in child psychology. She works at two part-time jobs to pay her way, and still finds time to volunteer with York Region Child and Family Services.

"Toula symbolizes the strength, creativity and commitment of the volunteer," said Marion Boyd, Minister of Community and Social Services. "She balances work and studies so she can reach out to others. Her continuing work in psychology will undoubtedly benefit many children, their families, and our province."

Each year, the Ministry of Community and Social Services recognizes 40 individuals who have been nominated by their peers for exceptional efforts in community social services, with the **Community Service Awards**. As well, for the first time this year, the ministry plans to annually recognize 20 young people who are 21 year of age and under, and have performed outstanding volunteer service to the community. This award is the **Youth Community Service Award**.

Volunteer Award winners

Community Service Awards for Northern Ontario were awarded at a dinner April 27, in Sault Ste. Marie. Recipients were:

Individual award recipients were:

Diane Jenkins and Douglas Rhodes, Sault Ste. Marie; Edward Fitzgerald, Bracebridge; Marian Benka, Rick Joyce, and Gwyneth Workman, all of Thunder Bay; Lorraine Evershed, Chelmsford; Leanne Lockyer, Mindemoya; Dina Pollesel, Sudbury.

Youth Community Service Award recipients for Northern Ontario were led off by student volunteers representing all classes at O'Gorman High School, in Timmins. Individual recipients were:

Alex Bleakley, 16, and Suzanne Grant, 20, both of Thunder Bay, and Valerie Vandenberg, 20, of Kirkland Lake.

Southeastern Ontario winners were presented their awards in Kingston on May 1. The recipients were:

John MacDonald, Alexandria; Verna McLellan, Belleville; Alex Fairbanks, and Ruth Mead, both of Kingston; Kathleen Davis, Eva Lamb, and Arthur Piper, all from Ottawa; Dr. John Beamish, Peterborough; Fran and Bernard Horsley, Spencerville; and James O'Connor, of Whitby.

Youth Community Service Award recipients were:

Eric Williamson, 15, of Peterborough; David Kilburn, 18, of Smiths Falls; Rani Morrall, 19, of Kingston; and Martin Charron, 15, of Orléans.

Award recipients from Southwestern Ontario were recognized at a dinner in their honour on May 5. The recipients were:

Lillian Coleman and Anne Coulter, Chatham; Bette Reid, London; Peter Queiser, Kitchener; Ted Williams, Guelph; Diane Mattiussi, Burlington; Ross Robinson, Hamilton; Mary Anne Fetterly, Wallaceburg; Margaret Shannon, of Clifford; and Margaret Butler, St. Catharines.

Youth Community Service Awards recipients:

Trisha Zeidler, 15, of Kitchener; Darlene Loop, 20, of Wheatley; Melvin Imbroll, 17, and Anita Zebregts, 21, both of London; and Mary Bryant, 21, of Windsor.

Central Ontario Community Service Award recipients receiving their awards April 29 were:

Mona Gould, Barrie; Betty Brownridge, Burlington; Anthony and Gert Campagna, Keswick; Leslie Seaborn, Mississauga; Fran Brown, Diana Eckert, Penny Everett, and Marilyn Noell, all of Toronto; Paul Marshall, Binbrook; and Cheryl Paulin, Scarborough.

Youth Community Service Awards recipients: Carmela Dodaro, 15, and James Eaton, 18, of Oakville; Sherry Williams, 17, Mississauga; David Hollett, 18, Toronto; and Beverly Selesnick, 14, of North York.

Seniors' Month 1992:

Aging in a Changing World

The challenge of aging in the face of breathtaking pace of change of today's world inspired the theme for this year's Seniors Month: "Aging in a Changing World".

Seniors' Month celebrations take place in June, and include the presentation of Senior Achievement Awards, as well as concerts and festivities in communities throughout the province.

This year, something new has been added — a forum for seniors to share thoughts on "Aging in a Changing World". Elaine Ziemba, Minister of Citizenship with responsibility for Seniors' Issues, will participate in a series of dialogues with seniors across Ontario. Created in response to requests from seniors, the dialogues are a chance for seniors to talk freely about issues related to aging, such as long-term care, housing, or gaining access to services in rural areas.

Concerts sponsored by the Office for Seniors' Issues have been a popular part of Seniors' Month celebrations in the past. Once again, communities throughout Ontario are planning concerts. This year, seniors' groups and organizations, who've gained significant experience planning, promoting and performing in the concerts in previous years, have assumed full responsibility for organizing Seniors' Month concerts.

A much-anticipated highlight of Seniors' Month is the presentation of Ontario Senior Achievement Awards — the province's highest honour for individuals who have made extraordinary contributions during their senior years. Henry N. R. Jackman, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, and Ms Ziemba will present the awards June 4 in a ceremony at the Legislative building.

For more information, call the Office for Seniors' Issues at (416) 327-2422, or toll-free at 1-800-267-7329. [crr]

Sexual assault campaign

Women's Issues Minister Marion Boyd launched a month-long campaign May 5, to heighten public awareness that any sexual act without consent is sexual assault and against the law.

"Just as 'no' means 'no', so does resisting, turning away, or being unresponsive," said Mrs. Boyd, who is also Minister of Community and Social Services. "Men have the responsibility to acknowledge and respect these messages. Women also have the right to refuse sexual advances at any point; we never give that right away."

It's estimated that less than one per cent of date or acquaintance rapes are reported. Fifty per cent of all sexual assaults happen to women 17 or younger.

In response, this campaign directs messages at teenagers through frank radio ads and television commercials.

The province-wide education campaign also includes English and French newspaper ads declaring that "against our will is against the law".

Since 1990, spending on initiatives against sexual assault has almost tripled, to \$17 million per year, with about 80 per cent of the funding going to services for assaulted women, Mrs. Boyd said.

The Ontario Women's Directorate co-ordinates the government-wide strategy on sexual violence.

People on the move

Richard Bradley is the new Director of the Child Care Branch. He was formerly Manager of the branch's Legislative Unit.

Lynn Bullard, formerly Administrator of Thistletown Regional Centre in Toronto, has been seconded as Director of the ministry's Operational Co-ordination Branch.

Louise Goldschmidt is Acting Administrator for the Children's Psychiatric Research Institute (CPRI) in London.

Dennis Norton has been appointed Acting Director of the Financial Planning and Corporate Analysis Branch. He was formerly Manager of Community Programs in the Financial Planning and Analysis Unit.

Coming up

May 27 - 30, 1992 Conference — Empowerment: The Key to Community Living. The Ontario Association for Community Living's 39th Annual Conference. Sudbury, Ontario. Call (416) 447-4348 for more information.

June 14 - 17, 1992 Focus '92. Volunteerism - A Canadian Perspective. Toronto, Ontario. Details (416) 236-0588.

June 15 - 17, 1992 Sexuality: New Visions, the 14th Annual Conference and Training Insti-

tute on Sexuality. Guelph, Ontario. For more information (519) 767-5000.

June 23 - 25, 1992 Conference on the Prevention and Treatment of Family Violence. Sponsored by Child and Family Service Agency of Southeastern Connecticut. New London, Connecticut. Call Susan Morton (203) 443-2896.

August 13 - 17, 1992 Canadian Fragile X Conference, Focus '92. Fragile X...Autism...X-disorders. Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario. Call (613) 548-4417 Ext.165 for more information.

October 8 - 10, 1992 Second International Conference for the Child. Presented by the Organization for the Protection of Children's Rights. Sheraton Centre Hotel, Montreal, Que. For information, call Riccardo Di Done (514) 593-4303.

October 29 - 30, 1992 Symposium on Autism. Presented by the Geneva Centre. Metro Toronto Convention Centre. For details call Margaret Whelan (416) 322-7877.

Regional news

A roundup of MCSS funding for community agencies

The following announcements were made in April. The city in each heading is the location of the ministry area and local office which works with the agency receiving the funds.

North

North Bay

Community Living South Muskoka will use \$472,800 in annual funding for residential programs in two group homes, in **Gravenhurst**, for people with developmental disabilities. Part of the money will be used to operate a four-bed group home for seniors and the rest of the funding will be used for four individuals in an enriched Supported Independent Living program.

Five transition houses and shelters for women who are victims of wife assault, and their children, will share one-time funding of \$296,326. The funding will allow the facilities to provide services to the women and their children, improve access to services and enhance shelter security. The five agencies and the funding they will receive are:

- **Nipissing Transition House, North Bay,** \$82,371.
- **Ojibway Family Resource Centre, North Bay,** \$49,916.
- **Mattawa Family Resource Centre, Mattawa,** \$32,000.
- **Sturgeon Falls Family Resource Centre, Sturgeon Falls,** \$56,450.
- **Esprit Place Family Resource Centre, Parry Sound,** \$75,591.

Southeast

Ottawa

The **Roberts/Smart Centre** in **Ottawa** will renovate and upgrade its eight-bed secure treatment facility for adolescents with serious mental and behavioural problems, thanks to a \$550,000 capital grant.

Southwest

Sarnia

Up to 75 children in **Lambton County's rural community** will be cared for in approved homes. **Lambton Rural Child Care** has been given a \$25,000 provincial grant to establish informal child care in 15 private homes in the county. The program will provide a flexible model for child care for families in rural and farming communities.

Central

Barrie

Armitage Village Child Care in **Newmarket** will be served by an in-school child care program to be established in the **Armitage Village Public School**. The program will be established with one-time start-up funding of \$62,352.

Mississauga

Children at **Brampton's Pathway Child Care Centre**, will have new toys and equipment as a result of provincial funding. The one-time grant of \$60,749 will also be used to cover initial staffing and administrative expenses.

People with developmental disabilities in **Brampton** will receive help with employment skills, on-the-job training and employment support with \$48,000 in annual funding. The **Brampton/Caledon Association for the Mentally Retarded** will use the funding to provide job coaching staff.

The **Oakville Association for the Mentally Retarded** will be given an additional \$53,000 annually to provide more staffing for its Employment and Assessment Centre program. As a result, more adults with developmental disabilities in **Halton** region will have greater access to employment services and supports in their communities.


The **Parent Infant Program**, operated by the Health Department of the Regional Municipality of **Halton**, will receive \$65,400 annually to provide additional staff for the program.

Toronto

The **Mary Centre of the Archdiocese of Toronto** will receive funding of \$308,919. A total of fourteen seniors with developmental disabilities in **Scarborough** will benefit from the funding. The funding will be used to expand its residential program, provide support services to new residents and run a two-year pilot program to integrate these senior citizens into the community.

People who are deaf and have other disabilities are receiving training and assistance to help them live more independently. The **Bob Rumball Centre for the Deaf**, in **North York**, was given an additional \$103,855 annually to enhance or provide these programs.

NEWS




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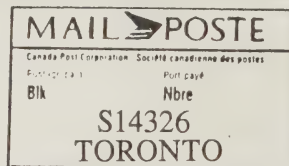
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NEWS

Ministry of
Community and
Social Services

Ontario

JUNE 1992 • VOLUME 2 • NUMBER 5

Funding levels for social services agencies for 92/93

Funding to provincial social service agencies will increase one-half to one per cent for 1992/93, MCSS Minister Marion Boyd announced last month.

In a letter to provincial social service agencies, Mrs. Boyd said the increases reflect government priorities as well as decisions about efforts to control costs.

"Everyone participating in the delivery of social services in Ontario has to look for ways to provide the maximum quality and level of services with the funding we have available," she said.

Provincial social services agencies will receive the following increases:

- Child care and long-term care agencies will receive a one per cent increase, reflecting the high priority of these services.
- Agencies that provide services to children, assaulted women, people with developmental disabilities, and other adults will receive increases of one-half per cent.
- A one per cent cost escalation has been approved for the cost of administration for General Welfare.

As well, funding for sheltered workshops for people with physical or developmental disabilities will be reduced by \$5 million over the next two years, with \$2 million transferred to supported employment programs. This is consistent with long-term ministry objectives to move people with

disabilities from segregated workshop settings, wherever possible, into the workforce.

The ministry's own budget will incorporate a 3 per cent reduction in direct operating costs (salaries and other direct expenses) this year.

FACTS

Social assistance in Ontario

Cases

In **May**, there were **605,025** cases (single individuals and family heads) receiving social assistance. This includes Family Benefits (FBA) and General Welfare (GWA).

319,037 cases on GWA (preliminary)

285,988 cases on FBA

605,025 total

Beneficiaries

There were **1,178,893** beneficiaries in **May** (includes family heads as well as spouses and children).

562,901 on GWA (preliminary)

615,992 on FBA

1,178,893 total

Time for Action report on social assistance released

Time for Action, the principal report of the Advisory Committee on New Social Assistance Legislation, was released June 9. It gives 52 directions for reforming the social assistance system in Ontario.

In a news conference with Advisory Group Chair Allan Moscovitch, and Lana Mitchell, an Advisory Group member, Marion Boyd, Minister of Community and Social Services, accepted the report and thanked the group for their work in preparing it. She added the government is committed to continuing social assistance reform.

The 12-member Advisory Group was appointed by the Minister of Community and Social Services in May 1990, two years after the release of *Transitions*, the report of the Social Assistance Review Committee. SARC, appointed in 1986 to review the provincial welfare system, recommended that new legislation be developed to replace the existing General Welfare Assistance Act and the Family Benefits Act. In appointing the Advisory Group, Mr. Moscovitch, a social work professor at Carleton University in Ottawa, and the other members were asked to advise the government on how to transform the *Transitions* report into action.

The First Nations' Project Team Report on social assistance was released at the same time as *Time for Action*. This report was developed and published separately in recognition of the unique needs and circumstances of First Nations.

The Advisory Group on New Social Assistance Legislation will be holding information sessions about the content of *Time for Action* around the province throughout June.

Ontario's northernmost child care to be built

Bearskin Lake, nearly 400 air miles northwest of Thunder Bay, and close to the 54th parallel, is the site of Ontario's most northerly child care centre. And "air miles" aptly describes its other unique distinction; the community is not served by road or rail and is the first fly-in Native community in northwestern Ontario to receive ministry funding for construction of a child care centre.

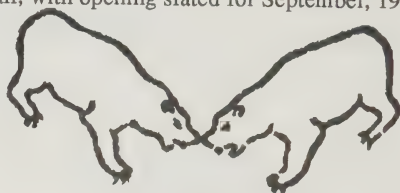
The Ministry of Community and Social Services is providing a \$600,000 capital grant to Bearskin Lake First Nation to build the 26-space centre.

"This is a very important event for the families of Bearskin Lake First Nation," commented

MCSS Minister Marion Boyd. "It also demonstrates the government's goal of providing quality child care in Ontario anywhere it's needed. Despite these difficult economic times, funding child care is a high priority with the provincial government."

The centre will provide care for 16 pre-schoolers and 10 toddlers. Included will be four integrated spaces for children with developmental disabilities to play and learn with their peers in regular child care programs.

Construction of the centre is expected to begin this fall, with opening slated for September, 1993.



Bearskin Lake Tribal Council Logo

\$4 million helps people with mental illness, developmental disability

The first three projects in a \$4-million, four-year program to help people who have both a mental illness and a developmental disability, have been announced by Health Minister Frances Lankin, and Marion Boyd, Minister of Community and Social Services.

"The program's goal is to help the individuals integrate into the community," said Ms Lankin. "It is part of a recently-announced health reform strategy which includes the development of accessible and co-ordinated services for special groups."

"We are working to eliminate the barriers and gaps that prevent people from obtaining an effective combination of services," added Mrs. Boyd. "The program announced today reflects the high priority this government puts on community living, and the funding must proceed even considering these tough economic times. Assistance must be there to improve the quality of life of the people we're serving."

The ministers announced funding for • **J.D.Griffin Adolescent Centre**, Toronto, to manage a project of Metro Agencies' Representatives Council (MARC), an association of more than 40 agencies. About \$380,000 in each of three years for the MATCH (Metro Agencies Treatment Continuum for Mental Health) Project. Information, assessment, consultation services ensuring continuity of services, and offering family support.

- **Bethesda Community Services of Niagara and the Niagara Regional Health Services department.** Approximately \$270,000 in each of four years. A psychiatric nurse, behavioural therapist, and social worker will act as a crisis intervention, education and consultation team. They will work with regional hospitals, vocational, residential support services and boards of education, people living independently with their families, or in the dual diagnosis unit of Hamilton Psychiatric Hospital.
- **Ottawa-Carleton Chapter of the Canadian Mental Health Association.** About \$270,000 a year for two years. Sponsoring a brokerage service: an interdisciplinary, co-ordinating link ensuring access to community living supports, treatment, crisis management and other resources.

Blue Jays Kids Day a success

The kids came out the winners at Blue Jays Kids Day, held May 16 at Toronto's Skydome. Blue Jays Baseball Club, the Variety Club of Ontario - Tent 28, and the ministry teamed up for the tenth year to make the day a success.

The 5,000 children and escorts who attended the game against the Seattle Mariners didn't seem to mind that the Jays lost.

"The Skydome was filled with happiness and excitement," said deputy minister Charles Pascal. "What a great day for the kids and a perfect day for a ball game."

The Toronto Blue Jays donated the seats for the game. The Variety Club - the world's largest children's charity - covered transportation costs from designated points in Ontario to the game, and the ministry provided staff to co-ordinate the day. McDonald's Restaurants donated ballpark franks and refreshments.

Each year at the game, the Variety Club presents a Sunshine Van to a group that works with children. Mr. Pascal, Variety Club Chief Barker Buzz Chertkoff, and Blue Jays manager Cito Gaston, presented the van to Ron Sinucan of CNIB Brantford this year.

People on the move

Mary Sutherland has been appointed Acting Administrator of Thistletown Regional Centre. Most recently, Mary was on secondment to the government's disentanglement initiative. Immediately prior, she was Acting Manager of Central Services in the Operational Co-ordination Branch.

Coming up

August 13 - 17, 1992 Canadian Fragile X Conference, Focus '92. Fragile X...Autism...X-disorders. Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario. Call (613) 548-4417 Ext.165 for more information.

September 2 - 4, 1992 International Conference on Self-Help/Mutual Aid. Sponsored by the Canadian Council on Social Development. Government Conference Centre, Ottawa, Ontario. Contact Boldon Planners, 126 York Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1N 5T5.

September 20 - 22, 1992 Annual Convention: Ontario Association of Non-Profit Homes & Services for Seniors. "Orchestrating the Future". Harbour Castle Westin, Toronto, Ontario. For information call (416) 851-8821.

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October 29 - 30, 1992 Symposium on Autism. Presented by the Geneva Centre. Metro Toronto Convention Centre. For details call Margaret Whelan (416) 322-7877.

Regional news

A roundup of MCSS funding for community agencies.

The following announcements were made in May. The city in each heading is the location of the ministry area and local office which works with the agency receiving the funds.

North

Sault Ste. Marie

Starting next September, up to 73 children of the **Garden River First Nation**, near **Sault Ste. Marie**, will have a new child care centre. The **Garden River First Nation Council** will be given a total of \$1,099,200 in capital and annual funding from the province to build and operate the centre.

A capital grant of \$634,900 will be used to build the centre, and annual funding of \$464,300 will be used for its operation.

Southwest

Hamilton

Eight adults with developmental disabilities will enjoy the benefits and challenges of community living as a result of new provincial funding.

The **Grimsby-Lincoln and District Association for Community Living in Beamsville** will be given annual funding of \$236,000 to provide a wide range of support services for four residents. The funding will allow for residential support, life skills, and family support services.

The **St. Catharines Mainstream Non-Profit Housing Project** will receive \$244,000 annually to provide residential and day program support to four older adults with developmental disabilities when they move into the St. Catharines community.

Provincial grants of \$88,339 are being given to the **Port Colborne Co-operative Nursery School Inc.**, to set up and furnish an in-school child care centre at Port Colborne High School.

The centre, to open in September, will be licensed to provide care for up to 21 children. Five of the spaces will be reserved for children of young parents attending the high school.

Central

Mississauga

Children and families in **Halton Region** will benefit from an additional \$40,000 in annual funding for a foster care program operated by the Halton Home Care Program. The funding, to be administered by the **Children's Aid Society** in Oakville, will be used to enhance program supports for children with developmental disabilities.

Community Living Mississauga will receive \$41,300 annually for vocational support for adults with developmental disabilities in **Mississauga**. The funding will be used to assist these individuals in finding supported employment in the community.

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NEWS

JULY/AUGUST 1992 • VOLUME 2 • NUMBER 6

Opportunity planning projects chosen

Nine pilot projects across Ontario designed to help social assistance recipients get back to work, were announced recently by MCSS minister Marion Boyd.

The projects, which will run for up to five years, will introduce opportunity planning into the social assistance system.

"The concept of opportunity planning is key to this government's plans to reform Ontario's social assistance system," said Mrs. Boyd. "The goal of opportunity planning is to help people on social assistance become self-reliant. The pilots will help us learn how opportunity planning can be used."

The nine projects are: Waterloo Region Opportunities Planning in Cambridge, Kitchener and Waterloo; Partners for Access, Choices and Change in the Ottawa-Carleton region; Peel Opportunity Planning in Peel region; Window of Opportunity in North Bay, Nipissing, Parry Sound and Muskoka districts; Opportunities 2000 in Kenora; Self-Help and Independent Living (SAIL) in Mississauga; the Lakeshore Community Action Project in Toronto (Etobicoke); the Algoma District Services Board in Elliot Lake; and Lovesick Lake Native Women's Association in Burleigh Falls.

The projects were recommended by an independent review committee from almost 200 proposals received from across the province.

Projects were chosen on the basis of:

- consumer involvement;
- partnerships within the community;

- attention to serving a diversity of people.

Opportunity planners will help social assistance recipients establish a plan for self-reliance and gain access to the services they need.

Mrs. Boyd said the ministry will provide about \$4.5 million per year for the pilot projects. An additional \$500,000 annually will be used to fund First Nations opportunity planning pilot projects, yet to be announced.

F A C T S

FBA Recipients with *STEP Earnings (*Supports to Employment Program)

(in thousands)



June '92 FBA Caseload: 267,718

Tables of Diversity

Beginning last January, a series of informal meetings began between the Ministry of Community and Social Services and community members involved in the social services system. Known as Tables of Diversity, the meetings -- chaired by MCSS minister Marion Boyd and deputy minister Charles Pascal -- were held to discuss ways of improving the delivery of social programs and services in Ontario. Individuals from all sectors of society were invited to bring their concerns and ideas about social services to the table, and at the same time, gain a better understanding of the views of others.

"Tables of Diversity have brought together people of widely differing backgrounds and interests to address issues that are fundamental to this ministry," Mrs. Boyd explained. For example, a Tables of Diversity meeting in Sault Ste. Marie included representatives from a legal clinic, a Native group, the health council, the local social planning council, the chamber of commerce, the hearing society, a member of the clergy and individuals from several child and family services organizations.

Over the years, the Ministry of Community and Social Services, in partnership with transfer payment agencies, has met its many obligations to the people of Ontario by delivering an ever-increasing range of social programs and services. But recent reviews have shown that certain methods of service may no longer be addressing needs and priorities. As well, the climate of fiscal restraint means that the ministry can no longer "do business" as it has in the past.

Tables of Diversity meetings are a part of the government's commitment to consultation with communities.

Between January and May, 18 meetings were held. These were hosted by the minister and deputy minister, together with members from ministry local offices. So far, 385 community members involved in the social services system have met with the ministry at Tables of Diversity meetings.

"These meetings have been a useful forum for the free exchange of ideas and information," said Mr. Pascal. "They also address the issue of access -- not only the access of communities to decision makers in government, but access for us in the ministry to people in the community."

It is expected that more "Tables of Diversity" meetings will be scheduled in the future.

Child care consultation

Earlier this year, the Ministry of Community and Social Services launched a series of public consultations throughout Ontario to gather input for reform of the child care system.

The ministry's goal is to create a high-quality child care system that is affordable, accessible and well-managed. In order to do that, it was decided to bring together as many ideas as possible from all those interested in child care in the province.

About 3,200 people attended consultation meetings in 18 communities throughout the province, from Kenora to Hawkesbury. Close to 500 briefs were presented, some 300 letters were written in response to meetings, and there were approximately 4,500 responses to a questionnaire designed to get parents' views on child care reform.

A summary of the many ideas generated from the consultations will be available to the public this fall. New child care legislation is scheduled for introduction next year.

jobsOntario Capital creates jobs, expands services

MCSS will provide \$110.5 million in jobsOntario Capital over the next two years to expand the social service infrastructure and create new jobs.

Minister Marion Boyd said more than 120 renovation and construction projects will create employment averaging one year of work for about 1,500 people. The bulk of the projects involve the construction and renovation of child care centres; others will improve and expand services in the areas of family violence, young offenders, children's services, and long-term care.

"This is one of the most significant investments of capital in the social service infrastructure in many years," said Mrs. Boyd.

Funding for the projects is part of jobsOntario Capital, a five-year, \$2.3 billion fund to support economic restructuring. About \$97 million will be used to build new non-profit child care centres and to renovate and expand existing ones.

Mrs. Boyd said \$77 million is in direct support of a ministry commitment to fund up to 20,000 new child care fee subsidies over the next three years as part of the jobsOntario Training fund to create work and training opportunities for

people on social assistance or no longer eligible for unemployment insurance benefits. MCSS is helping to ensure that people who want to participate in the program have access to child care.

Mrs. Boyd made the announcement on the site of the St. Lawrence Co-op Child Care Centre, which will be built with \$578,000 provincial funding and \$144,000 from the City of Toronto on land donated by the city. Other projects receiving funding will be announced over the next few months.

Employment equity legislation tabled

Mandatory employment equity legislation which will enable Aboriginal peoples, people with disabilities, racial minorities and women to participate fully in the workplace, has been introduced by Citizenship Minister Elaine Ziemba.

The Ontario Public Service, broader public sector employers with 50 or more employees, such as hospitals and universities, and private sector employers with 100 or more employees will be subject to the full requirements. These include a workforce analysis to determine the present status of employees; a review of formal and informal employment practices to identify any that may be discriminatory; and the development and implementation of an employment equity plan. Streamlined requirements for broader public sector employers with 10 to 49 employees, and private sector employers with 50 to 99 employees will be developed. Special consideration will be given to particular sectors or industries, such as the construction industry.

Legislation will be phased in over a period from 12 months after proclamation for the Ontario Public Service to 18 months for the broader public sector and up to 36 months for private employers.

Ms Ziemba said an employment equity commission will be established to support employers in achieving equity objectives and an employment equity tribunal will hear complaints and adjudicate disputes.

She said the groups designated by the bill represent 60 percent of Ontario's labour force.

Report on human rights reform released

The report of the Ontario Human Rights Code Review Task Force, "Achieving Equality: A Report on Human Rights Reform", was released in July.

Mary Cornish, chair of the task force appointed by Citizenship Minister Elaine Ziemba to conduct an independent review of the province's human rights enforcement system, said Ontarians are fundamentally dissatisfied with the present system which denies them proper justice.

The report is intended as a blueprint for a fair and practical system, built around four cornerstones for achieving equality: a consumer perspective which presents consumers with options on how best to deal with a human rights claim; a community-driven focus; a proactive approach by working with employers, accommodation and service providers to develop measures and policies to ensure compliance; and an effective but accessible claim resolution process.

The report also calls for a revitalized Commission to be called Human Rights Ontario, which would make proactive systemic initiatives instead of processing all claims, while an Equality Rights Tribunal would provide mediation and adjudication services, and an Equality Services Board would provide advocacy services to claimants.

New transit buses to be more accessible in '93.

The Ontario government will require all new or leased transit buses to be equipped with low floors to be more accessible to people with disabilities and the elderly after July 1, 1993.

Transportation minister Gilles Pouliot said that as well as the low floors, the buses must be equipped with easier access features. Under the new policy, the vehicles must meet these provincial standards to be eligible for funding under the Ministry of Transportation's municipal transfer payments. Mr. Pouliot added that all new transit terminals will also have to be fully accessible to qualify for the subsidy.

"This announcement demonstrates the government's commitment and support for transportation systems that are accessible to everyone," Mr. Pouliot explained. "Low-floor buses will allow more people to use conventional transit, freeing up specialized services for people who require greater assistance."

People on the move

Geoffrey Quirt, Director of Residential Services, becomes Acting Director of the Long-Term Care Division. He replaces former director **Dianne Macfarlane** who left to become President and CEO of Riverview Hospital, a psychiatric facility located in Port Coquitlam, B.C.

Connie McCandless, formerly Director of the Technology Support Branch, has become Director of the newly consolidated ISAT Branch. The name of the new branch has yet to be determined.

Dave Derkatch, currently Acting Director of the Strategic Systems Development Branch, will assume a position as Acting Associate Director of the consolidated branch.

Long-Term Care London Area Office has moved. It is now at 231 Dundas Street, Suite 201, London N6A 1H1. All phone numbers remain the same.

Coming up

September 2 - 3, 1992 Rehab and Home Care Exhibition. Metro Convention Centre, Toronto, Ontario. Call (416) 497-9562 for information.

September 2 - 4, 1992 International Conference on Self-Help/Mutual Aid. Sponsored by the Canadian Council on Social Development. Government Conference Centre, Ottawa, Ontario. Contact Boldon Planners, (613) 594-8226

September 17 - 18, 1992 Conference: Canadian Mental Health Association, Ontario Division. Sheraton Hotel, Hamilton, Ontario. For information call (416) 964-9611.

September 20 - 22, 1992 Annual Convention: Ontario Association of Non-Profit Homes & Services for Seniors. "Orchestrating the Future". Harbour Castle Westin, Toronto, Ontario. For more information call (416) 851-8821.

September 25, 1992 Conference: Women and Patient Care. Sunnybrook Hospital Social Work Department, Toronto, Ontario. Call (416) 480-6100, Ext. 5904 for more information.

October 2, 1992 Workshop: Disability and Sexability: Brief Interventions for Clinical Practice. Sheraton Fallsview Hotel, Niagara Falls, Ontario. Contact Karen Hoar (416) 688-2980 Ext. 272.

October 8 - 10, 1992 Second International Conference for the Child. Presented by the Organization for the Protection of Children's Rights. Sheraton Centre Hotel, Montreal, Quebec. For information, call Riccardo Di Done (514) 593-4303.

October 29 - 30, 1992 Symposium on Autism. Presented by the Geneva Centre. Metro Toronto Convention Centre. For details call Margaret Whelan (416) 322-7877.

Regional news

A roundup of MCSS funding for community agencies

The following announcements were made in **June** and **July**. The city in each heading is the location of the ministry area and local office which works with the agency receiving the funds.

South East

Ottawa

People in north Renfrew will benefit from the programs of a new seniors centre to be built in **Deep River**. A \$1 million **jobsOntario Capital** grant will be given to the **North Renfrew Health and Social Planning Committee Inc.** toward construction of the facility. The centre will also have a 30-bed residential component. Construction of the centre will provide approximately three months of work for 65 people.

South West

Sarnia

Children and parents in the **Petrolia** community will benefit from a **jobsOntario Capital** grant of \$670,000 to build a new centre for **Generations Child Care** on the grounds of the new **Twilight Haven** senior's residence in Petrolia. This funding will allow **Generations Child Care**, which previously shared accommodation in the seniors residence, to keep its intergenerational focus.

London

The **Dutton** community will benefit from \$800,000 in new provincial funding for **Bobier Nursing Home** and **Dutton Child Care**. **Bobier Convalescent Home** will receive \$100,000 in annual Long-Term Care Funding to provide seniors with assistance to live independently in their own homes. **Dutton Child Care** will use \$700,000 **jobsOntario Capital** grant to build a new 55 space child care centre set to open in September of next year.

Central

Toronto

Adults with visual and hearing impairments will be assisted to live independently in their own homes, with provincial funding of \$617,900 annually. The **Rotary Club of Don Valley** will receive the funding for Cheshire Homes in North York to provide a wide range of individualized support services for the residents.

NEWS



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NEWS



SEPTEMBER 1992 • VOLUME 2 • NUMBER 7

Changes to Ontario Drug Benefit program

Health minister Frances Lankin recently announced changes to the Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) program to better manage the program and save almost \$50 million this year.

The program pays for certain medications for people 65 and over, those receiving home care, residents in homes for the aged and nursing homes and those on social assistance.

The Ministry of Health has set up a special telephone hotline to answer questions on the changes: 1-800-268-1154; in Toronto 314-5518; TDD 1-800-387-5559.

A total of 25 drugs have been added to the list of products covered by the program including Sinemet CR, for the treatment of Parkinson's disease, and Zovirax 800 mg, for shingles.

About 130 over-the-counter drugs have been dropped from the list, including sunscreens, multiple vitamins and vitamin C, cough and cold remedies, antihistamines, and the drug dimenhydrinate which includes drugs like Gravol.

As well, a total of about 106 prescription drug products have been removed because of excessive price increases. Ms Lankin said that for about two-thirds of these products, an alternative drug is still covered by ODB. Prescription antihistamines also have been removed.

Ms Lankin said the changes were recommended by the Drug Quality and Therapeutics Committee, an independent advisory body of experts in medicine, pharmacy, and other disciplines.

Other changes include promoting larger quantity prescriptions for patients on certain long-term drug therapies to save on dispensing fees to pharmacists and trips clients must make to pharmacies.

Those eligible for the Ontario Drug Benefit program include 1.2 million seniors and approximately one million people receiving social assistance.

Ontario Drug Benefit Program

What the changes will mean

1991/92 \$1 billion+

1992/93 \$1.2 billion
without changes

Announced changes
to reduce growth 92/93
by \$48 million

1992/93 \$1.15 billion
with changes

Council of Consumers

Social assistance recipients now have an opportunity to help change Ontario's social assistance system.

Between July and September this year, approximately 532,000 FBA and GWA recipients received an insert with their cheques. The insert asks the recipients if they're interested in helping change Ontario's social assistance system.

It is from a five-member working group of social assistance consumers and former consumers. One of the group's members is from an advocacy group called Low Income People Involvement (LIPI), comprising and representing social assistance recipients and former recipients.

The five-member working group plans to create a 15-member Council of Consumers to accurately reflect all regions and target groups across Ontario.



Council of Consumers

The Council will represent all recipients to provide ongoing advice and input to MCSS on policy, decision-making and service delivery.

Lana Mitchell, a former consumer of social assistance and currently executive director of LIPI, says, "I'm extremely impressed with the willingness of consumers to work with the system. I had always viewed the system as being adversarial, and was concerned a co-operative effort wouldn't get off the ground, but now I'm convinced it can work."

So far, LIPI has received more than 2,000 responses to the cheque insert.

In a recent visit to North Bay, MCSS minister Marion Boyd confirmed that the government has approved the creation of a Council of Consumers. In an interview with a local newspaper, Mrs. Boyd was quoted as saying, "Clearly it will keep us in touch with the consumers of our services."

For further information, write:

Low Income People Involvement
13 Main Street East
North Bay, Ontario
P1B 1A9

or phone Joan Spence, Special Projects Secretariat (416) 327-0588.

Seatbelt safety for infants and toddlers

In response to startling figures about misuse of car seats (see chart this page), the Ministry of Transportation is asking MCSS child care operators to pass on information on how to safely secure young children.

The 1992 Ontario Seat Belt Public Education campaign is targeting parents and care-givers of infants, toddlers and young children with tips and facts about child seat safety.

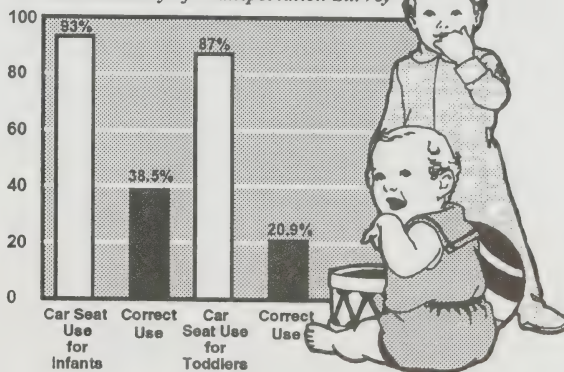
In Ontario, approximately 17,000 children under age five are involved in motor vehicle collisions each year. In a crash, sudden stop or swerve, small children are very vulnerable. An important way to reduce the risk of childhood death and injury is by properly using child safety seats for infants and toddlers when travelling by car.

Some suggestions from the Ministry of Transportation about how to carefully and safely secure child in a car seat include:

- Read the manufacturer's instructions to ensure you're using the seat properly.
- An infant under 9 kg (20 lbs) is safest sitting in a rear-facing position.
- Place harness straps flat over the child's shoulders and fasten the buckles so the buckles fit snugly.
- If blankets are placed over the child, place over the straps of the seat, not under the straps. This prevents the child from slipping out of the seat in case of impact.
- Choose a seat that's easy to handle so it's used correctly and consistently.

For more information, contact: Debra Merowitz (416) 235-5501.

Use of Child Seat Restraints 1991 Ministry of Transportation Survey



Fair Tax Commission

The Ontario Fair Tax Commission (FTC), established to provide the government with advice on how to design and implement a fair tax system, is looking for public feedback.

A final report will be made to the Treasurer by the group in the fall of '93. In the meantime, they want to talk to as many taxpayers as possible, including people who work in the Ontario Public Service.

For more information on the Fair Tax Commission and to receive Tax Talk, the commission's newsletter, write the FTC at 1075 Bay St., 6th Floor, Toronto, M5S 2B1.

People on the move

Pamela Grant becomes the minister's executive assistant on September 14. She was co-ordinator of community liaison in the Premier's Office.

Jane Marlatt has left her position as assistant deputy minister, Policy and Program Development, Children and Family Community Services, to join the Ministry of Culture and Communications. While a replacement is sought, responsibility for the division is being shared by three other ADMs. Community Services Branch reports to Shirley Hoy, ADM Social Assistance and Employment Opportunity; Children's Services Branch reports to Sandy Lang, ADM, Operations; and Child Care Branch reports to Judith Wright, ADM, Strategic Directions.

Coming up

September 14 - 15: Employment and Equity Superconference. Toronto, Ontario Keynote: Juanita Westmoreland-Traoré, Employment Equity Commissioner. For more information (416) 927-0718 contact: Mary Ann Harnick.

September 17 - 18: Conference: Canadian Mental Health Association, Ontario Division. Sheraton Hotel, Hamilton, Ontario. For information call (416) 964-9611.

September 20 - 22: Annual Convention: Ontario Association of Non-Profit Homes & Services for Seniors. "Orchestrating the Future". Harbour Castle Westin, Toronto, Ontario. For more information call (416) 851-8821.

September 25: One-day Conference: "Old Responsibilities - New Challenges: Redefining Caregiving in the 90s". Sponsored by the Dept. of Social Work, Sunnybrook Health Science Centre. Radisson Hotel Don Valley, Toronto, Ontario. Call Cindy Stolarchuk (416) 480-6100, Ext. 5904 for more information.

September 30: Challenges and Change '92 - A Conference on Accountability. Toronto, Ontario. Metro Toronto Association for Community Living. Keynotes: MCSS minister Marion Boyd and deputy minister Charles Pascal. Call Deborah Bourke (416) 968-0650, Ext. 256.

October 2: Workshop: Disability And Sexability - Brief Interventions For Clinical Practice. Sheraton Fallsview Hotel, Niagara Falls, Ontario. For information call Karen Hoar (416) 688-2980 Ext. 272.

October 8 - 10: Second International Conference for the Child. Presented by the Organization for the Protection of Children's Rights.

Sheraton Centre Hotel, Montreal, Quebec. For information, call Riccardo Di Done (514) 593-4303.

October 15 - 19: A Child Care Agenda for the '90s: Putting the Pieces Together. The Canadian Day Care Advocacy Association, and The Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care. Ottawa, Ontario. Call (416) 538-0628 (English) or (613) 594-3196 (French).

October 16 - 19: No More Secrets: Childhood Trauma and Women's Retraumatization; Community Resources and Initiatives. Toronto, Ontario. Call (416) 924-8998.

October 29 - 30: Symposium on Autism. Presented by the Geneva Centre. Metro Toronto Convention Centre, Toronto, Ontario. For details call Margaret Whelan (416) 322-7877.

Regional News

A roundup of MCSS funding for community agencies

The following announcements were made in July and August. The city in each heading is the location of the ministry area and local office which works with the agency receiving the funds.

North

Kenora

Families of the **Couchiching First Nation** will benefit from the first child care centre to be built in a First Nation community in the Rainy River District. The centre is being made possible with a \$480,000 capital grant from the province and will provide care for up to 32 children. Construction is set to begin in the fall with an opening date targeted for February of '93. For more information, contact Bill Johnson, Program Supervisor, Kenora (807) 468-2419.

Thunder Bay

Native children and families of the Gull Bay Reserve will receive a new 30 space child care centre as a result of \$778,000 in grants and annual funding to **Gull Bay First Nation**. The centre is slated to open in the spring of '93. For details call Patrick Farrell, Program Supervisor, Thunder Bay (807) 622-2272.

Sault Ste. Marie

Seniors in **White River** will be helped to live independently in their own homes, as a result of a province-wide interministerial supportive housing initiative. White River will receive funding of \$75,000 annually for support services for tenants of an 18-unit seniors complex currently under construction. For more information, call Derek Jeffreys, Program Supervisor, Algoma District (705) 945-6796.

Timmins

Young people in conflict with the law in the **District of Timmins** will receive support, counseling and encouragement in a newly-designated observation and detention home in the Town of Cochrane. Nee-Gi-Nan, an open custody and place-of-safety group home, will receive \$300,000 in **jobsOntario Capital** funding for construction and renovations needed to upgrade the facility to observation and detention. For information, contact Bruce Miller, Program Supervisor, Timmins (705) 267-7901.

Native children and families in the **Attawapiskat and Constance Lake First Nations** will benefit from new child care centres in their communities. A total of \$205,300 in provincial grants will help pay for construction and start-up costs of the two new centres. Construction of both centres is expected to be completed in the fall. Contact Dorothy Bale, Program Supervisor, Timmins (705) 267-7901 for more information.

Sudbury

Residents of the **Manitoulin Centennial Manor District Home For The Aged** will have more privacy, and greater comfort as a result of renovations to be undertaken at the home over the next three years. The 60-bed facility will receive ministry capital totalling \$4,180,130 to complete the upgrades, including the construction of a new wing, and renovations to the two existing ones. For more information, call Stan Kunto, Program Supervisor, Sudbury (705) 688-3130.

People with developmental disabilities in the **Districts of Sudbury and Manitoulin** will benefit from enhancements to local supports and services with \$71,000 in one-time and annual funding. The **Sudbury YWCA** will be given an additional \$61,000 annually for staffing to co-ordinate services and provide centralized access to services for people with developmental disabilities living in Sudbury and Manitoulin Districts. As well, the **Espanola DACL** will receive a \$10,000 start-up grant to facilitate the move of two individuals from the Muskoka Centre into their current residential and day programs. For more information, call Ron Cormier, Program Supervisor, Sudbury (705) 675-4541.

Southeast

Belleville

Seniors and adults with physical disabilities in **Prince Edward County** will benefit from supportive housing. **Cheshire Homes**, **VON Quinte Branch**, **Canadian Red Cross Quinte Branch**, and **Prince Edward County Community Care** will share \$180,000 in provincial annual long-term

care funding to provide services to people at **Harmony Home**, **Wellington Legion Manor** and **Quinte Isle Housing**. For details, contact Brian Smith, Community Development Co-ordinator, (613) 962-8888.

Peterborough

The **Port Hope/Cobourg ACL** will receive provincial funding of \$65,000 annually to provide a leisure program for adults with developmental disabilities in the community. Call Susan Finnie, Program Supervisor, Peterborough (705) 742-9292 for more information.

Southwest

London

Seniors in **Perth County** will benefit from provincial funding for a 50-unit residential complex and support services in **Stratford**. The funding is part of two provincial initiatives, **jobsOntario Capital** and long-term care. **Greenwood Court** will receive \$4.4 million of which \$4 million is from **jobsOntario Capital**. The senior's complex will amalgamate services from centres in Stratford and Milverton and provide 50 new supportive housing units. Contact Gail Ure, Area Manager, London (519) 675-7680.

Women and children in **Huron County** who are victims of family violence will benefit from a \$1 million **jobsOntario Capital** grant for a new women's shelter called **Survival Through Friendship**. The shelter has a targeted opening date of fall '93. Contact Lee Preney, Program Supervisor, London (519) 663-5273.

As well, women and children who are victims of abuse in **Perth County** will have a new shelter as a result of a **jobsOntario Capital** grant of \$1 million. Construction of the new women's shelter, **Optimism Place**, will begin in the spring of '93 and is to be completed in early '94. Contact Lee Preney, Program Supervisor, London (519) 663-5273.

People with physical disabilities in **London** will benefit from new annual, supportive housing funding. **Cheshire Homes of London** will receive \$700,000 annually to provide services to **Windy Woods**, a facility currently under development with the assistance of the Ministry of Housing that will provide space for up to 25 people with severe physical disabilities. For details, call Linda Girard, Program Supervisor, London (519) 675-7696.

Munsee Delaware First Nation will benefit from a \$402,700 capital grant toward a 49-space child care centre. Construction is to begin in September with an opening date set for April, 1993. Contact Varley Finch, Program Supervisor, London (519) 663-2148 for more information.

Hamilton

jobsOntario Capital grants totalling \$1.5 million will be used to create four new **Niagara area** in-school child care centres. J.C. Bald Child Care Centre in Welland will receive \$500,000; Le Centre Prescholaire, also in Welland, will receive \$300,000;

Thorold Co-op Nursery School in Thorold will receive \$200,000; and Adolescent Support Services of Niagara will receive \$500,000 for a centre in St. Catharines. For further details, contact Don Trebilcock, Program Supervisor, Hamilton (416) 521-7340.

Central

Mississauga

A new 20-bed women's crisis shelter will be built by **Halton Women's Place** with a \$1.1 million **jobsOntario Capital** grant. The project, expected to be built in the **Burlington area**, will also result in about 12 months of employment for approximately 24 people. As well, the ministry will also provide \$344,000 annually to operate the new shelter. Contact Jeanette Johnson, Program Supervisor, Mississauga (416) 897-3107.

NEWS



MCSS *News* is published 10 times per year (monthly except for special circumstances December-January and July-August) to provide news about initiatives and program funding from the Ministry of Community and Social Services. It is distributed to Ontario social service agencies, associations, other governments, ministry offices, community centres, libraries and news media. We welcome your comments.

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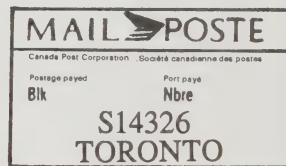
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NEWS



OCTOBER 1992 • VOLUME 2 • NUMBER 8

New Child Abuse Standards are easier to use

Children's Aid Societies (CAS) will now have more current direction for investigating reports and cases of child abuse. The new Revised Standards for the Investigation and Management of Child Abuse Cases have been updated to reflect current legislation.

Other changes to the standards, based on the experience of Children's Aid workers, include an easier-to-read format that is more user-friendly and clearer direction on the development of local protocols between the CAS and police.

The standards were developed by MCSS in co-operation with the Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies and the Institute for the Prevention of Child Abuse, with input from other affected ministries such as Education and the Solicitor General as well as the Ontario Indian Social Services Council.

The creators of the revised standards hope that better co-ordination between local police forces and other community organizations will result in improved protection for children.

Justice system initiatives respond to Stephen Lewis Report

The Ontario government has announced a commission of inquiry and other initiatives aimed at making the criminal justice system fairer, more accessible and more accountable.

The initiatives respond directly to recommendations contained in the Stephen Lewis Report on Race Relations in Ontario. They reflect extensive consultations among members of the community, justice system officials and the Ministries of the Attorney General, Solicitor General and Correctional Services.

In a joint effort with Correctional Services, MCSS will look at policies and practices relating to the treatment of minority youth in young offender facilities. Current practices and initiatives relating to the selection, training, promotion and discipline of staff working with young offenders will also be examined.

The research is designed to show if there are systematic differences in treatment related to the minority status of young people. The focal point of the studies will be on case management decisions affecting minority youth as they move through the system from entry to completion.

Within four months of the inquiry, there will be an interim status report on the treatment of minority youth and on the steps that can be taken to address issues that arise. A final report on other aspects will be available within 12 months.

MCSS will also address other initiatives in the coming months, relating to the Stephen Lewis Report. These initiatives reflect the provincial government's commitment to a justice system that treats all people equitably, and which inspires a sense of security and confidence among the people of Ontario.

I N S I D E

Updated postal codes	2
Coming up	2
People on the move	3
Regional News	3

An updated postal code list will save the ministry thousands of dollars

A streamlined mailing system will save the ministry more than \$200,000 in 1992-93 as part of the ministry-wide cost containment exercise. Every aspect of the ministry's business is under scrutiny to save money -- and that includes how social assistance cheques are mailed.

Updating the postal codes has meant lower postal rates, a new deferred delivery service and fewer lost cheques.

Reduced postage costs will save the ministry more than \$177,000.

A decline in the number of cheques lost in the mail will save MCSS another \$80,000 in costs associated with re-issuing a replacement cheque.

Cheques held at postal station

Plus with the cleaned up postal codes, Canada Post can now sort and hold the cheques at different postal stations across the province, deferring delivery until the last business day of the month. This discourages clients from paying a fee to cash their cheque early at a "Money Mart," and it helps eliminate the perception that mailed cheques arrive sooner than money deposited directly into a bank account. This supports another cost containment initiative -- encouraging clients to switch to direct deposit instead of having their cheque mailed.

According to Joyce Bodner, manager of Electronic Funds Transfer Liaison in the Financial Services Branch, the need for replacement cheques would almost disappear if all clients had their cheques deposited into the bank directly.

F A C T S

How will accurate postal codes benefit MCSS?

* It will cost MCSS 37 cents to mail an FBA cheque instead of 42 cents.

* The number of social assistance cheques lost in the mail system will decrease. It costs MCSS \$45.55 to process a lost or stolen cheque.

* Replacement cheques will decrease by about 150 per month.

Coming up

October 15 - 19: A Child Care Agenda for the '90s: Putting the Pieces Together Sponsored by the Canadian Day Care Advocacy Association and the Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care, Ottawa, Ontario. Call (416) 538-0628 (English) or (613) 594-3196 (French).

October 16 - 19: No More Secrets: Childhood Trauma and Women's Retraumatization; Community Resources and Initiatives Toronto, Ontario. Call (416) 924-8998.

October 28-30: Safety Net '92

Partnerships: Creating collaborative approaches for hard-to-serve children and adults. Sponsored by the Interministerial Provincial Advisory Committee (IMPAC) and the ministries of

Community and Social Services, Health, Education and Correctional Services. The Fern Resort, Orillia, Ontario. Call (416) 325-5669.

October 29 - 30: Symposium on Autism Presented by the Geneva Centre. Metro Toronto Convention Centre, Toronto, Ontario. For details call Margaret Whelan (416) 322-7877.

October 30 - November 1: The Schools & Skills Show Showcase and public exhibition of over 100 Ontario educational institutions and resources. Queen Elizabeth Building, Exhibition Place, Toronto, Ontario. Call (416) 960-4918.

November 1 - 4: The Changing Face of Crime Sponsored by the Probation Officers Association of Ontario. Hamilton Convention Centre, Hamilton, Ontario. Call (416) 549-9977.

People on the move

Kevin Costante became the executive coordinator of the Estimates Planning Secretariat in the Strategic Directions division in September.

Family and Children's Services of St. Thomas & Elgin County moved in August, to: 410 Sunset Drive, St. Thomas, Ontario N5R 3C7 Telephone: (519) 631-1492 FAX: (519) 631-0596.

Regional News

A roundup of MCSS funding for community agencies

The following announcements were made in September. The city in each heading is the location of the ministry area and local office which works with the agency receiving the funds.

North

Sioux Lookout

Seniors who live in a new barrier-free apartment complex in **Sioux Lookout**, will have a new amenity space funded by a \$200,000 **jobsOntario Capital** grant. The **Sioux Lookout Area Seniors Housing Committee** will use the funding toward construction of the space to be built into the planned Phase II apartment complex. Construction is expected to be completed in the winter of '94.

Timmins

Payukotayno: James and Hudson Family Services has been given a **jobsOntario Capital** grant of \$366,000 to bring hydro-electric power to Camp Weechahin, an open-custody facility for young offenders in **Fort Albany**.

Thunder Bay

Seniors in **Thunder Bay** will be helped to live independently in their own homes, as a result of \$300,000 in annual supportive housing funding. The funding will provide **St. Joseph's Heritage** with the resources to provide support services to the seniors.

Sault Ste. Marie

The Corporation of the Township of **St. Joseph's**, on **St. Joseph Island** will receive annual supportive housing funding of \$125,000. The resources will provide support services for clients from **Richard's Landing Seniors' Complex** and about 75 seniors in the community.

North Bay

Starting next year, children with behavioral and emotional difficulties in the **Parry Sound** district will have a new local treatment centre. The

Parry Sound Child and Family Centre will be given a \$350,000 **jobsOntario Capital** grant to build a four-bed, short-term residential treatment home in the town of **Parry Sound**.

Southeast

Ottawa

Seniors living in the **Finchview Villa** seniors apartment complex in the town of **Finch** will receive a \$700,000 **jobsOntario Capital** grant for supportive services, renovations and expansion. The project is expected to provide about 19 people with six months of employment.

Next spring, children in **Eganville** will have a new child care centre to play and learn in. **Ketcha Star (Eganville) Day Care** will receive a \$487,000 **jobsOntario Capital** grant to build the centre. Construction on the project will begin this fall and will result in an average of seven months of employment for about nine people.

A \$250,000 **jobsOntario Capital** grant will help children with emotional difficulties in **Renfrew County**. **Renfrew County Youth Services** will be given the funding to renovate the living quarters of **Alpha House (The Phoenix Centre)**, in **Pembroke**.

A new school-based child care centre will provide children in **Killaloe** with a place to play and learn. **Community Resource Centre (Killaloe) Inc.** will receive \$75,000 in grants to establish the centre in the new **Killaloe Public School**.

Seniors and young adults with physical disabilities in the **Ottawa** area will be helped to live independently in their own homes, as a result of supportive housing funding of \$600,000 annually. The funding will allow support services to be provided to seven people living in **Barrhaven Non-Profit Housing** in **Nepean**. A total of 10 other people will be assisted through support services sponsored by agencies to be determined by the Long-Term Care Division's **Ottawa Area Office**.

Next spring, the 95 children attending the **Andrew Fleck Child Care Centre** in **Ottawa**, will have a more spacious environment in which to play and learn. **Andrew Fleck Child Care Services** will be given \$115,000 in **jobsOntario Capital** funding as Phase I capital to undertake renovations to the heritage building in which the centre operates. The upgrades will result in about three months of employment for about 12 people.

Southwest

Windsor

Childhood Community Resource Centre in **Windsor** received \$81,000 in grants to establish a new, in-school child care centre at the new **Dougall Avenue Public School**. The program will be provide licensed care for up to 69 children.

Sarnia

Adults with physical disabilities will live more independently in their own homes in **Sarnia**, as a result of annual supportive housing funding of \$350,000. The funding will be given to the **Rehabilitation Foundation for the Disabled, Ontario March of Dimes, Sarnia**. It will be used to provide attendant care and outreach services for 12 adults.

Children in the **Corunna** community will have a new in-school child care centre thanks to provincial grants totalling \$89,000. **Lambton College** will use the funding to establish the centre in the new **St. Joseph's Elementary School**.

London

A \$1 million **jobsOntario Capital** grant will benefit women and children who are victims of abuse in the **Region of Haldimand-Norfolk**. The funding will also create employment for about 13 people for approximately ten months during the construction of the **Haldimand-Norfolk Women's Shelter**.

Waterloo

The **Participation House Project** in **Kitchener** will receive annual supportive housing funding of \$587,000 to provide a wide range of attendant care and other support services to adults with physical disabilities in the **Kitchener-Waterloo** area.

Hamilton

The **March of Dimes** in **St. Catharines** will receive annual supportive housing funding of \$400,000 to provide support services for 40 seniors and 12 people with physical disabilities who live in the **Faith Lutheran Villa**.

Up to 42 children of working parents in **Hamilton** and students at the new **St. Thomas More Catholic Secondary School** will benefit from an in-school child care centre. The **Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic Separate School Board** will be given grants totalling \$105,038 to establish the **St. Thomas More Children's Centre**.

The **County of Wentworth Board of Education** received \$102,702 for a new, in-school child care centre in **Waterdown**. The funding will be used to help establish a centre in the new **Waterdown District High School**. The centre will be licensed to provide care for up to 42 children.

Central

Barrie

Children with emotional problems and physical disabilities, cared for by the **Kinark Outdoor**

Centre in Minden, will have a new dining hall and kitchen facility to serve them, thanks to **jobsOntario Capital** funding of \$338,000. **Kinark Child and Family Services** will use the funding for the construction of the facility. The project is expected to bring about four months of employment to approximately 16 people.

Up to 59 children in **Aurora** will have a new school-based child care centre as a result of \$75,950 in one-time funding. **Light of Christ Child Care Centre** will use the funding to establish the new centre in the **Light of Christ Separate School**.

Adults with physical disabilities in **York Region** will be helped to live independently in their own homes thanks to annual supportive housing funding of \$618,000. The funding will provide the **Rehabilitation Foundation for the Disabled (March of Dimes)** with the resources to operate attendant care and support services for up to 20 people in a **Support Service Living Unit** program.

Participation House (Cerebral Palsy Parent Council of Toronto) in **Markham** will receive annual supportive housing funding of \$384,800 to provide attendant and support services for 14 adults with physical disabilities who will reside at **Cedarcrest Manor**.

Up to 40 **Midland** area infants, toddlers and pre-school children and their parents will benefit from a new in-school child care centre to be built in the new **St. Theresa's High School**. The **YMCA of Midland** will be given \$70,201 in grants to establish **YMCA Child Care** at the school.

Mississauga

Supportive housing funding of \$300,000 annually will help seniors and adults with physical disabilities live independently in their own homes in **Burlington**. The **Burlington Rotary Club** will provide the services through **Bonnie Place Non-Profit Housing Corporation**. Up to 114 people at **Bonnie Place** will be served.

Annual supportive housing funding of \$1.1 million to **The Rehabilitation Foundation for the Disabled: March of Dimes, Oakville**, will enable adults with physical disabilities in **Oakville** to live more independently in their own homes. The funding will allow the **March of Dimes** to provide support services for up to 80 adults.

This fall, six adults with developmental disabilities will have a home they can call their own in **Milton**, thanks to \$742,500 in one-time funding. The **North Halton Association for the Developmentally Handicapped** will be given the funding to purchase, renovate and furnish a home,

and provide residential and day programs for the individuals.

Treatment services will be available to help assist children and adolescent victims of sexual abuse in Peel Region. The Peel Children's Collaborative Child and Adolescent Sexual Abuse Treatment Program, a group of 16 different agencies, will help deliver the services with \$290,700 in funding.

As well, seniors and adults with a physical disability in Peel Region will benefit from supportive housing funding of \$600,000 to The Caledon Information and Community Services Centre. The centre will use the funding to provide support services for up to 77 people living at two non-profit housing units in Alton and Bolton.

NEWS



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NEWS



Ministry of
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Ontario

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Wife Assault Prevention Month

MCSS Minister Marion Boyd, as Minister Responsible for Women's Issues, has announced November as Wife Assault Prevention Month in Ontario.

In addition to violence against women, Mrs. Boyd said the campaign is concerned with ending violence against children and other vulnerable people, such as people with physical disabilities, elderly people, and people in institutions and corrections facilities.

Continued on page 2

Child care reforms

Last spring, the Ministry of Community and Social Services held 20 public meetings and eight round table discussions to hear what people around the province had to say about reforming the child care system in Ontario. That response has been summarized in a document which is due out in late December.

The document, which covers submissions to the Child Care Reform public consultations from parents, organizations and child care professionals throughout the province, has been divided into sections representing each interest group. They are: parents, child care providers and managers, resource centre personnel, education sector, children's services sector, academics, organized labour, business community, and local governments.

Special sections have also been created to reflect the consultations held with francophones and First Nations, as well as a special summary of the Round Table meetings.

Copies of the summary will be available through MCSS area offices.

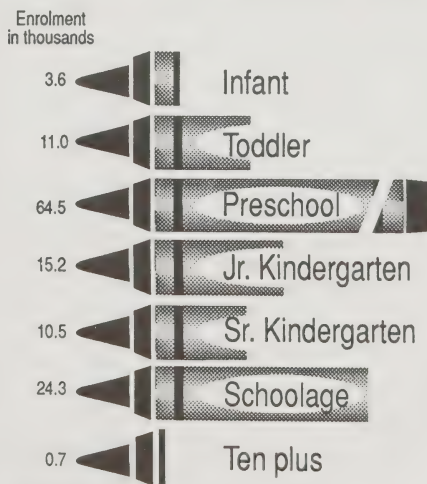
Council of Consumers: Update

As of mid-October, there were more than 3,000 responses to the insert mailed to social assistance recipients with their cheques this summer. The insert, from a working group of social assistance consumers and former consumers, asked if the recipients were interested in helping change Ontario's social assistance system.

In the report to Community and Social Services Minister Marion Boyd, the five-member working group recommended that a selection committee be formed to choose prospective members of the Council of Consumers.

Continued on page 2

Enrolment in Child Care Centres



Total 129.8

Source: Day Nurseries Information System Reference File
as of March 31, 1992

Operations Design Project

In August, the ministry put together a project team to carry out an organizational review of the MCSS Operations Division. This review is called the Operations Design Project.

Building on the work of previous reviews, this project will develop an organizational structure for Operations Division that ensures effective and efficient delivery of ministry services. The review will also position Operations to adapt to future needs of the ministry and those it serves.

The project team is made up of MCSS staff from across Ontario. A large part of their activity will be gathering input from other ministry divisions, and offices and facilities across the province.

The team encourages input, ideas and comment from ministry staff. Write the Operations Design Project, 2 Bloor Street West, 24th floor, Toronto M7A 1E9, phone the team at (416) 325-5820, or e-mail OPS_DESIGN account.

Wife Assault

Continued from page 1

In a statement to the Legislature, Mrs. Boyd said this month's campaign is the seventh wife assault public education campaign and that significant progress has been made in changing people's attitudes about wife assault.

Market research shows Ontarians got the messages of last year's campaign that psychological abuse is part of wife assault and that men are responsible for stopping the violence. The majority of those surveyed --- 72 percent --- place the responsibility for ending wife assault with men; 82 percent understand that emotional and psychological abuse are as damaging as physical assault; and 85 percent see discarding or destroying a woman's possessions, or keeping her isolated from friends and family is abusive behaviour.

This year's campaign will work to ensure that messages about wife assault reach all men and women in the province. The Ontario Women's Directorate is working with community groups to develop brochures in 17 languages; radio ads will be run in 11 languages; and television ads in 14 languages will also be broadcast.

Council of Consumers

Continued from page 1

The selection committee was named and is made up of 10 individuals representing consumers, provincial and municipal employees, a community organization, and the Advisory Group on New Social Assistance Legislation.

The newly-formed Council of Consumers Selection Committee had its first meeting on October 19, 1992. Together with the original working group, they finalized the selection process and criteria.

Selection Committee members will be assessing approximately 485 nominations for Council membership. The nominations were sorted regionally into five groups. Northeast and Northwest regions were combined for this assessment process, enabling the Selection Committee to split into five teams of two.

The next meeting of the Selection Committee is scheduled for November 10 and 11, 1992. They will come to this meeting with their first short list.

They are hoping to present their final selection of Council members to the Minister on December 9, 1992.

For more information write:

Low Income People Involvement
13 Main Street East
North Bay, Ontario
P1B 1A9

or phone Joan Spence, Special Projects Secretariat (416) 327-0588.

People on the move

Sandra Lang will leave her position as Assistant Deputy Minister, Operations, to join the Ministry of the Attorney General as ADM, Courts Administration Division, in January. Plans for transitional leadership while a replacement is sought will be announced.

Lynn Macdonald will become the new Assistant Deputy Minister of Corporate Services on November 23. She was the ADM of Corporate Services for the Ministry of Culture and Communications, and Ministry of Citizenship.

Barb Saunders is the new Area Manager for the Toronto Area Office. Barb had been acting in the position since March, 1991.

John Hewitt has been appointed Acting Area Manager for the Windsor Area until February 28, 1993. John is on secondment from his position as Administrator of Oxford Regional Centre, in Woodstock. From March 1, 1993 until August 31, 1993, **Pamela Patterson** will take over duties from John as Acting Area Manager. Pamela is currently Community Services Manager in the Windsor Area. John and Pamela temporarily replace Area Manager **Shari Cunningham**, who is on maternity leave.

Michael Cillis, former Community Programs Manager for Children's Program in the Hamilton Area Office, has been appointed Acting Administrator, Oxford Regional Centre.

Coming up

November 19: Abuse -- Everybody Talks About It, Learn What You Can Do About It Sponsored by the Ongwanada Resource Centre, Kingston, Ontario. Call J. Farrington, (613) 548-4417.

November 19 - 20: Job Development Techniques Workshop Sponsored by the Canadian Council on Rehabilitation and Work. Lamplighter Inn, London, Ontario. Call Karen Loewen, (204) 942-4862.

Regional News

A roundup of MCSS funding for community agencies

The following announcements were made in **October**. The city in each heading is the location of the ministry area and local office which works with the agency receiving the funds.

North

South Muskoka

Adults with developmental disabilities in **South Muskoka** are benefiting from \$210,600 in funding from the province to help them live more independently in the community. The funding is being given to **Community Living - South Muskoka** to provide family home programming and supports for eight individuals.

Southeast

Ottawa

Up to 57 children of students and faculty of **Carleton University** will have a new child care centre on campus to replace the current facility. Colonel By Child Care Inc. will be given a \$750,000 **jobsOntario Capital** grant to build a replacement for the existing facility, which has become unsuitable. The construction will result in employment for about 20 people for approximately eight months.

In the new year, 74 children attending the bilingual **Centre Prescolaire Aladin Preschool Centre**, will have a new location. The agency will be given a \$225,000 **jobsOntario Capital** grant toward costs of relocation and renovations. The project is expected to provide employment for about nine people for approximately five months.

A new child care centre for 79 children will be built in Ottawa next year. **Hawthorne Meadows Nursery School Inc.** will be given \$1.4 million in **jobsOntario Capital** to build the centre. The project will employ about 24 people for approximately 12 months.

United Counties, Winchester

Elderly citizens living in the Beachcroft and Millview seniors apartments, as well as other seniors living in the Village of Winchester and surrounding areas, will benefit from additional support services. The **United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry**, and the **Village of Winchester** will share a **jobsOntario Capital** grant of \$402,800 toward construction of a new facility in which the services will be based. The project is expected to provide employment for about 14 people for approximately six months.

Vanier

Up to 35 kindergarten and schoolage franco-phone children will join 32 of their preschool peers to play and learn in an expanded child care program at Le trillium School, in Vanier. **Le Centre psycho-social pour enfants et familles d'Ottawa-Carleton** will be given a \$60,000 **jobsOntario Capital** grant for the expansion of Les petites frimouses child care.

Peterborough

Starting in September 1993, up to 57 children of **Trent University** students and staff and of working parents in the Peterborough community, will have a new child care centre. The university will be given an \$865,000 **jobsOntario Capital** grant to build the centre on its Nassau campus. The project is expected to provide employment for about 23 people for approximately seven months.

Southwest

Woodstock

Children and families in **Oxford County** will benefit from improved services as a result of one-time funding to the **Oxford County Children's Aid Society**. The agency will be given a \$708,000 capital grant toward construction of an addition to their existing building.

Hamilton

Women and their children in the Hamilton area who are victims of family violence, will benefit from enhanced support services, thanks to provincial funding. **The Emergency Shelter Foundation of Hamilton-Wentworth** will be given \$97,500 annually for staff who will provide support services to the women living in Foundation-operated second stage housing in the city.

People who are blind or visually impaired will learn skills to live independently in the community, as a result of \$400,000 annually in supportive housing funding. **The Canadian National Institute for the Blind**, Hamilton, will receive the funding to provide the services required.

Huron

Children and their families in Huron County will benefit from improved services thanks to provincial funding of \$1,284,000 to the **Huron Children's Aid Society**. The capital grant will be used to construct a new building to house the agency -- currently in two locations -- under one roof.

St. Catharines

Seniors in St. Catharines will be helped to live independently in their own homes in the community, as a result of supportive housing funding of \$80,000 annually from the provincial government. The **"Heidehof" Benevolent Society for the Care of the Aged** will receive the funding to provide the required services.

Up to 70 children in St. Catharines are enjoying learning and playing in a new in-school child care centre in the recently completed Grapeview Public School. The **YMCA of St. Catharines** will be given grants totalling \$74,178 toward the establishment of the Grapeview Y Day Care Centre.

NEWS



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NEWS



Ministry of
Community and
Social Services

Ontario

DECEMBER/JANUARY 1992-93 • VOLUME 2 • NUMBER 10

Rate increase deferred to April 1, 1993

Any increases in General Welfare (GWA) and Family Benefits allowances (FBA) will be deferred to April 1, 1993.

Minister of Community and Social Services, Marion Boyd said, "I know that people on social assistance, some of Ontario's most vulnerable, have become accustomed to increases in their income support each January 1, and I'm aware that this deferral may create some anxiety."

She also said that the government has succeeded in keeping levels of social assistance ahead of increases in the cost of living. "Despite our current budget pressures, we remain strongly committed to reforming the social assistance system so it works better and is more equitable for everyone in Ontario," the minister added. *Continued on page 2*

Reform of long-term care begins

New legislation introduced in November will set the stage for the restructuring of Ontario's long-term care system.

Health Minister Francis Lankin introduced the Long-Term Care Statute Law Amendment Act to improve the quality of life for residents in long-term care facilities, November 26th.

A fairer funding scheme for nursing homes, improved accountability, a consistent resident payment policy, simplified and streamlined access to long-term care facilities and direct payment to adults with disabilities to buy and manage their own support services are among the changes to the legislation.

Under the new system, residents in long-term care facilities will be asked to pay for their accommodation only. Currently, they are paying for nursing and personal care as well.

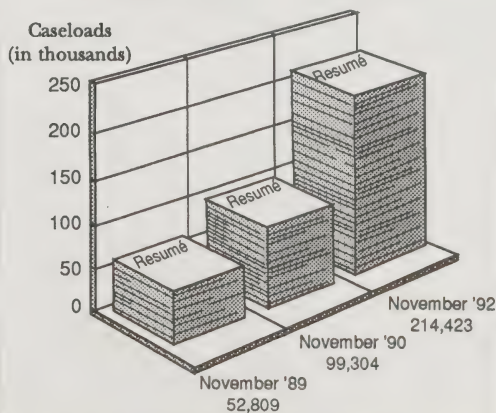
Expanded homecare and palliative care policy will improve system

Minister Lankin also announced in December, that expanded homemaker services and a new palliative care policy will improve the province's long-term care system.

Ms Lankin said \$133.5 million will be allocated to establish integrated homemaker services, which will include homecare in areas of the province that do not yet have them. *Continued on page 2*

Jobless turn to GWA

The number of unemployed on General Welfare Assistance has increased by 306% since 1989



Auditor's Report released

The Provincial Auditor's Report, released December 1st, concluded that the ministry's administration of the Family Benefits system is "less than satisfactory". Minister Marion Boyd acknowledged the issues raised by the auditor, and pointed out the ministry is taking steps to correct them. In particular, Mrs. Boyd pointed out the ministry is hiring 450 additional staff to work in the FBA system.

"The problem is well on its way to being resolved," said Minister Marion Boyd, "But when you have a situation that is as deeply systemic as the Auditor has identified, it takes time to ensure all of the issues are resolved."

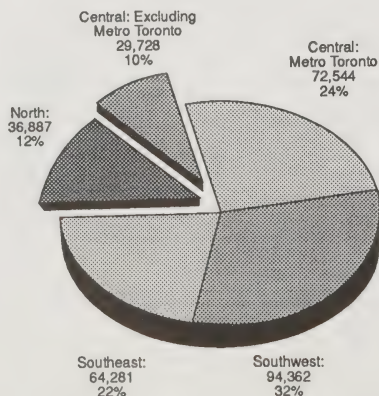
In areas of the province where social assistance growth has been greatest, income maintenance officers were handling cases of up to 500 clients. By hiring additional staff, the ministry will be able to focus on five key priorities which will improve its capacity to:

- link interested recipients to training and employment opportunity;
- redirect people who are eligible for other forms of income support;
- improve administration;
- prevent fraud;
- help sole support parents locate and obtain child support.

The minister said these measures will make the social assistance system more responsive to people in genuine need, while minimizing abuse and reducing costs.

Family Benefits Assistance caseloads - November 1992

297,823 cases (estimate)
by location in Ontario



As of August 1, 1992, an additional 111 income maintenance officers were hired in Barrie, Hamilton, Kingston, London, North Bay Ottawa, Sudbury and Toronto.

Rate increase deferral

Continued from page 1

In a letter to municipalities and Chiefs of the First Nations, Mrs. Boyd said the decision to make any rate increases effective April 1 was based on three factors:

- The federal government's recent cuts to the Unemployment Insurance system have affected forecasts on which social assistance costs are calculated. Accurate forecasts are important because funds for social assistance from the federal government continue to be capped.
- Rates have increased approximately 12.5 per cent since 1990, compared to a 6.1 per cent increase in the cost of living.
- The decision was also based on the ongoing discussions on disentanglement with municipalities. Disentanglement is the process in which the province has agreed to assume full funding of GWA allowances, provided appropriate trade-offs can be agreed upon by provincial and municipal authorities.

Any adjustments to take place April 1 will be announced before the end of January.

Long-term Care reform

Continued from page 1

"This means that an elderly woman in Hamilton, for example, could now have someone come to her home and help her with bathing and dressing," she said. "Consumers will be able to live with dignity and independence in their own homes and communities."

Funds for the expansion of homemaker services will come from the previously announced \$647.6 million long-term care redirection budget, while funding for a new palliative care policy is separate.

Beginning in 1993-94, the government will allocate \$4.82 million annually to fund palliative volunteer visiting programs, educate more than 1,000 service providers, and establish pain and symptom control teams.

Speaking on behalf of her colleagues, Community and Social Services Minister Marion Boyd and Citizenship Minister Elaine Ziemba, Ms Lankin said they were "determined to transform the long-term care system so that it is more effective, more efficient, and better equipped to meet the challenges of the future for seniors, their caregivers, adults with physical disabilities, and those who need health and support services at home."

Pay equity bill is amended

A new bill to amend the Pay Equity Act of 1987 reaffirms the government's commitment to the rights of working women.

Labour Minister Bob Mackenzie said in a statement to the Legislature in November, that "the long struggle to achieve pay equity will still be won but will take a few extra years to complete."

The new bill replaces Bill 168. The changes will make the Act more effective for at least 420,000 more working women by introducing two additional methods for achieving pay equity -- proportional value comparisons and proxy comparisons.

Proxy comparisons will be used in the public sector while proportional value comparisons will be used in both the private and public sector. Both methods ensure that women are paid for work valued on the basis of skill, effort, responsibility and working conditions.

Mr. Mackenzie added that the new bill allows three extra years to achieve pay equity. "All existing requirements to implement pay equity plans in the public sector by 1995 are being extended to 1998," he said.

Report released on Syl Apps Youth Centre

Minister Marion Boyd released a report in November which outlined serious problems and measures taken to correct them at the Syl Apps Youth Centre in Oakville.

Mrs. Boyd said that the complaints weren't simply isolated incidents of poor treatment of residents, but systemic issues that require a response to change the nature of the system. "That response has already begun at Syl Apps and in the government's overall approach to eliminate abuse in institutional settings," she added.

In July of this year, the ministry's Office of Child and Family Service Advocacy set out to investigate complaints of poor living conditions, use of excessive force against young offenders, racial discrimination, and lack of privacy.

The complaints were confirmed through interviews by Advocacy staff, with residents, staff, and youth discharged from Syl Apps.

In her report to the minister, Judy Finlay, Manager of the Advocacy Office, states that, "many steps have been taken, or are under way to ensure

the protection of the youth, to improve living conditions, to ensure privacy, to monitor the interactions among staff and youth, to ensure the right to religious practice, and to improve programming for the residents."

The facility is a campus of the Thistletown Regional Centre in Toronto, offering programs for young offenders and youth with serious mental health needs. MCSS has responsibility for young offenders who are 14 and 15 years old.

Integrated Services for Children and Youth Secretariat established

In an effort to provide more effective and more efficient services to children, youth and their families, an Integrated Services for Children and Youth Secretariat is being established.

The Secretariat will provide leadership within, and across ministries, to guide the integration of policies, programs and services.

Carola Lane, Assistant Deputy Minister of Education will chair the Secretariat, to be located at the Ministry of Education. It will be represented by several ministries, including MCSS.

Faith groups formalize tri-ministry partnership

A 20-year partnership between the province and 26 major faith groups was formally affirmed when a Memorandum of Agreement was signed in December.

Minister Marion Boyd, Health Minister Francis Lankin and Corrections Minister David Christopherson signed the Agreement with 26 leaders from the major religious groups in Ontario.

The leaders of the Faith Groups are members of the Ontario Multifaith Council on Spiritual and Religious Care (OMCSRC) -- formerly called the Ontario Provincial Interfaith Committee on Chaplaincy (OPIFCC).

The OPIFCC was formed in 1971 to support chaplains who deliver spiritual care and ensure access to religious services for residents, offenders, patients and staff of government-funded institu-

tions and programs. An agreement between OPIFCC and the Ministries of Community and Social Services, Health, and Correctional Services had not been formalized until the signing of the Memorandum.

"Your presence in our facilities benefits not only clients of our services, but staff as well," said Mrs. Boyd at the signing ceremony. "We cannot do our jobs alone; we rely heavily on all faiths. I'm glad we have formally recognized your extremely important work with this Agreement."

Convention for the Rights of the Child

November 20th marked the first anniversary that the Convention for the Rights of the Child was passed by the General Assembly of the United Nations (U.N.). "This is a date to be marked and celebrated with pride every year," said MCSS Minister Marion Boyd.

Since that day, more than 119 member states have ratified the Convention. It is a document which establishes that a child is a person with legal and moral rights which the state has promised to defend.

It aims to protect basic social, economic, and cultural, as well as civil and political rights of children around the world.

"In these very challenging economic times of constraint, the provincial government remains committed to supporting programs which promote the well-being of children," said Mrs. Boyd. "Today's realities demand that we do this in the most strategic, cost-efficient ways. This will ensure that the taxpayer's dollar is used as effectively and responsibly as possible, to best serve children and their families."

ADM Sandra Lang joins the Ministry of the Attorney General

After 15 years with this ministry, Sandra Lang, Assistant Deputy Minister (ADM), Operations, will start a new position in January as ADM, Courts Administration Division, Ministry of the Attorney General.

"It was a very difficult decision to leave," Ms Lang said. "I will miss the warmth, acceptance and fun of this ministry."

Ms Lang said she is looking forward to the new and very different challenges that await her. The work she will do in her new position will relate to this ministry. "I definitely won't lose ties with people here," she said.

People on the move

Margaret Gallow will assume the role of Acting Assistant Deputy Minister, Operations Division, effective January, when **Sandra Lang** moves to her new position at the Ministry of the Attorney General.

Barbara Stewart began a new position as Director of Capital and Administrative Services, December 1st. Barbara will also serve as Project Director of the Corporate Services Divisional Review.

Coming up

January 12: Workshop - Frontline Workers Training; sponsored by the Canadian Mental Health Association, Ottawa, Ontario. Call (613) 737-7791

January 22: Symposium on Genetic Counselling & Predictive Testing in Neurodegenerative Disorders Surrey Place Centre, Toronto, Ontario. Call (416) 597-3693

January 26-29: Workshop - Group Facilitation; Canadian Training Institute; Downsview, Ontario. Call (416) 665-3889

January 28 & 29: Workshop - Job Development Techniques Workshop; sponsored by the Canadian Council on Rehabilitation and Work, Ottawa Congress Centre, Ottawa, Ontario. Call Karen Loewen, (204) 942-4862

February 3-5: Workshop - Crisis Intervention and Prevention; Canadian Training Institute; Downsview, Ontario. Call (416) 665-3889

Regional News

A roundup of MCSS funding for community agencies

The following announcements were made in **October** and **November**. The city in each heading is the location of the ministry area and local office which works with the agency receiving the funds.

Southeast Region

Orléans

Centre parascolaire Alpha 3-12 received a \$27,455 grant to help pay for equipment costs at its new child care centre in Orléans. The grant is in

addition to recent ministry grants totalling \$75,000 for toys, equipment and start-up costs. The funding will benefit up to 51 francophone children at Ecole Jeanne Sauve.

Ottawa

Five child care agencies in **Ottawa** and eastern Ontario will share \$74,068 in one-time provincial funding to implement improvements in French-language services. The agencies benefiting from this announcement co-ordinate a variety of programs offered to the francophone community.

Victoria County

A new outreach counselling service will benefit native women who have experienced abuse and live in the counties of **Victoria, Haliburton, Northumberland, Peterborough and Durham Region**. **Victoria County Women's Resource services**, in **Lindsay**, will receive a \$120,300 grant for two years to fund and work with the Nijikiwendidaa Anishnaabe-Kwewag Circle Project. "Nijikiwendidaa" in Ojibwa means "Let us be friends with each other" and "Anishnaabe-Kwewag" translates to "Women of First Peoples".

North Region

Fort Hope

Women and their children who are victims of abuse, seniors of **Fort Hope's Eabametoong First Nation**, and those of four neighbouring First Nation communities, will receive services in a new multi-purpose residence. The **Eabametoong First Nation Band Council** will be given a \$360,000 **jobsOntario Capital** grant to construct the building which is expected to provide about four months of work for approximately 14 people.

Whitefish Bay

Native children and families of **Whitefish Bay First Nation** will benefit from a \$640,000 **jobsOntario Capital** grant for a new child care centre, to be opened in the fall of 1993. The centre will provide employment for about 11 people for approximately 12 months.

Central Region

Brampton

The **Mary Centre of the Archdiocese of Toronto** will receive \$178,558 annually to operate a new home in **Brampton**, beginning next January. The funding will help to provide programs

and support services to four people with developmental disabilities.

Southwest Region

St. Catharines

A new early childhood community development centre will be established January to benefit children in child care and their caregivers in **St. Catharines**. The **Association for Early Childhood Education (Niagara Branch)**, will receive a start-up grant of \$64,000 to purchase resource materials and launch the program. An additional \$75,000 in annual funding will be used for operational support. The centre's location will be announced later this year.

Brantford

Working families in **Brantford** will benefit from provincial funding totalling \$55,872 for **Noah's Ark Preschool Centre**. The centre will expand and relocate to the new Assumption College School. The funding includes an 80 per cent grant of \$30,643 for equipment and toys with **Noah's Ark Preschool Centre** responsible for the balance. A second grant of \$25,229 will be used for start-up costs.

Hagersville

The **Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation** will receive \$69,460 annually from the province to establish counselling and support services to native women who are victims of family violence. The funding will benefit women living on or in the area of the **New Credit First Nation Reserve**, near **Hagersville**. Traditional methods will be used along with contemporary counselling skills to ensure that the service is culturally appropriate.

Niagara Falls

Provincial funding will benefit up to 46 children attending a new in-school, francophone child care centre at Ecole Notre Dame La Jeunesse, in **Niagara Falls**. **La Petite Etoile De Niagara Inc.** will be given grants totalling \$35,279 to establish the program. A capital grant of \$20,308 will pay for renovations, toys and equipment and an operating grant of \$14,971 will cover start-up costs. **La Petite Etoile** is licensed to provide care for 16 pre-schoolers 2 1/2 to 5 years of age, and 30 school-age children.

NEWS



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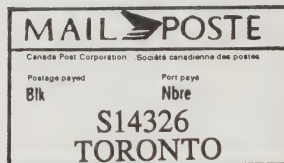
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NEWS



Ministry of
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Ontario

FEBRUARY 1993 • VOLUME 3 • NUMBER 1

Province will pay 100 per cent of GWA

In a draft agreement reached by the province and municipalities in January, the provincial government will pay 100 per cent of the cost of General Welfare Assistance (GWA) allowances beginning in January 1994. In return, municipalities will assume other responsibilities now funded by the province.

Municipal Affairs Minister David Cooke and former president of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), John Harrison, said in a joint announcement, that the draft agreement is a sign of goodwill and partnership between the two

continued on page 2

Working group wants tax burden on poor reduced

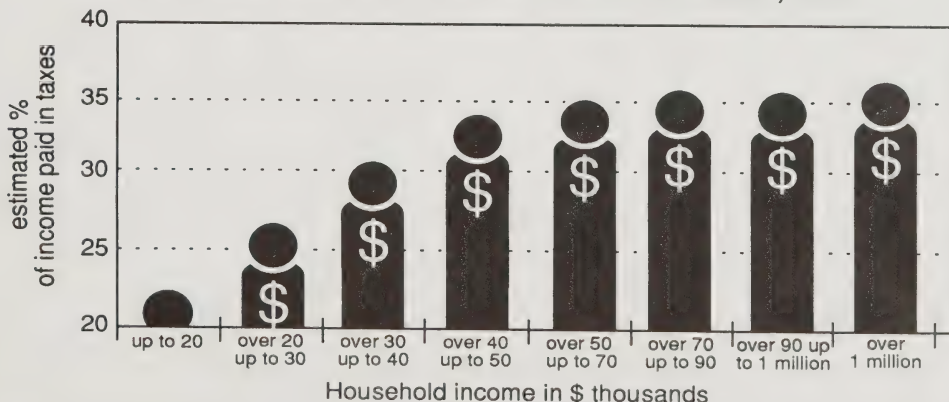
People with incomes below the poverty line should not pay income tax according to a report released in December, by the Low Income Tax Relief Working Group of the Fair Tax Commission.

The working group is one of eight groups established by the Treasurer of Ontario, to examine specific tax issues.

"The group agreed that fair taxation should be based on the principle of ability to pay," says Mary Pat McKinnon, chair of the working group.

continued on page 2

Estimated Total Tax Burden for Ontario Households, 1991



SOURCE: Compiled by the Fair Tax Commission Secretariat, using Statistics Canada's SP5D/M Model. Included in the calculations are: federal and provincial income tax; federal goods and service tax;

provincial retail sales tax; gasoline, fuel, tobacco and alcohol taxes; air transportation tax and custom duties; property taxes; and contributions to Canada Pension Plan and Unemployment Insurance.

Province will pay 100 per cent of GWA

continued from page 1

levels of government. The agreement centres around the provincial-municipal initiative known as Disentanglement.

"For many years, virtually everyone with an interest in social assistance programs has agreed that the province should pay 100 per cent of the cost of General Welfare Assistance allowances," said Mr. Cooke. "I am very pleased at what municipalities and the provincial government have been able to accomplish in less than a year. It is a tremendous and historic achievement."

Mr. Harrison and Mr. Cooke, both co-chairs of the Disentanglement Steering Committee, said the overlap, duplication and confusion that results from provinces and municipalities cost-sharing more than 100 services, is no longer acceptable.

Municipalities currently pay about 20 per cent of the cost of GWA allowances, which is estimated to be at least \$350 million in 1992. While the funding arrangements will change, the way the service is delivered will remain the same.

To help offset the increased provincial expenditure, municipalities will assume funding responsibilities for property assessment services and certain provincial highways.

The Ontario government and AMO have been working together on the first phase of Disentanglement since early 1992.

Working Group wants tax burden on poor reduced

continued from page 1

After more than a year of study, the group concluded that low-income people carry an unfair tax burden. Many families and individuals with incomes below Statistic Canada's poverty line pay income tax. The working group recommends waiving income tax for people who report income below Statistic Canada's after-tax Low Income Cutoff (LICO). For 1991, that figure was \$12,602 for a single person living in an urban area. Those

earning \$6,532 in 1991 however, had to pay federal income tax and the point where they began paying income tax in Ontario, was \$8,477.

The working group also determined that the proportion of income paid in total taxes does not increase significantly above the \$40,000 income level. (See chart)

After an analysis of who pays taxes in the current system, and the various types of tax relief measures available, the group made 18 recommendations that fall under three categories:

- Reduce negative impact of the tax system on low income people;
- Ways the tax system can assist low-income people; and
- A strategy outside the tax system to fight poverty.

Copies and highlights of the report are available by contacting the Fair Tax Commission. Call (416) 325-8222.

Advocacy and Living Wills Legislation passed

The provincial legislature passed a package of laws in December, to help elderly and disabled persons safeguard their rights. People who are having difficulty asserting their rights will be provided with access to an advocate who will assist them to speak on their own behalf.

The comprehensive set of reforms also gives everyone in Ontario the right to prepare a "living will" to outline what kind of health treatment they do or do not want should they become unable to communicate their wishes.

"Many elderly and disabled people aren't aware of their rights. Some are denied the freedom to make their own decisions, or no one pays attention to their wishes. We've seen people neglected, exploited and abused," said Elaine Ziembra, Minister of Citizenship with responsibility for Disability and Seniors' Issues. "We finally have the tools to allow people to make their own decisions and to have those decisions respected."

The package is expected to come into effect in about one year. During this time, the government will continue the consultations to prepare for the delivery of services.

The Report of the Task Group on Access to Abortion released

Health Minister Francis Lankin said her ministry will act quickly on the recommendations made by the Task Group of Abortion Service Providers.

"This government is committed to improving access to abortion services," she said. "My ministry will work closely with key stakeholders on the recommendations of the report to ensure that all women across this province have equal access to effective and appropriate care."

Abortion service providers worked with the Women's Health Bureau during the last two years, to advise the Ministry of Health on how to improve abortion services in Ontario. Their report makes 46 recommendations on how access to abortion services can be improved. It will be used as the basis of the government's strategy to improve access.

"Abortion is a legal health service in Ontario," added Marion Boyd, Minister responsible for Women's Issues. "We welcome this report and its recommendations as information essential to ensuring women's safety, privacy and access to abortion services."

The following recommendations were made in the report:

- Current data should be used to determine the specific needs for service and co-ordinate a strategic plan to improve access.
- The possibility explored, of making abortion services available in settings such as community clinics, and consideration given to alternate funding mechanisms to support them.
- A program developed to train physicians in the provision of abortion services.

Currently, abortion services in Ontario are available through 77 hospitals of 223, and at four independent clinics.

For more information contact the Health Information Centre: (416) 327-4327

Citizenship Minister Elaine Ziemba responds to Stephen Lewis Report

In response to the Stephen Lewis Report, Citizenship Minister Elaine Ziemba announced a government strategy in December, that will help non-Ontario trained professionals and tradespersons get back to work.

Access to Professions and Trades will address the systemic barriers that prevent non-Ontario trained people from getting work. Minister Ziemba said the government will provide \$2 million over two years, towards a Demonstration Project Fund which includes the following elements:

- 10 to 15 demonstration projects per year;
- cost-sharing projects with the private sector; and
- new or expanded networks between professionals and trades associations and community organizations whose composition includes non-Ontario trained individuals.

In addition, a Community Advisory Group will be established to assist in the development of the government's Access strategy.

"Utilizing the talents of all Ontarians in our workforce is not only fair and equitable, but it also makes good economic sense," said Minister Ziemba. "These measures designed to improve access for non-Ontario trained citizens will enable

Coming up

February 3-5: Workshop - Crisis Intervention and Prevention; Canadian Training Institute; Downsview, Ontario. Call (416) 665-3889

February 18-19: Workshop - Suicide Intervention; Canadian Mental Health Association, Ottawa-Carleton Branch. Call (613) 737-7791

March 8: Conference - The Advocacy Act ...Are you prepared? Sponsored by Participation House London, Forward House, New Frontiers, Alice Saddy Association. Lamplighter Inn, London. Call (519) 668-5320

March 10-12: National Symposium - Community Crime Prevention; Department of Justice Canada; Toronto. Call (613) 957-1524

March 26: Geri-active: Groups for the Geriatric Population; Sunnybrook Health Science Centre, Toronto. Call (416) 480-6100 ext. 4417

June 1-4: Strengthening Practice: Client and Research Connection; Cleveland House, Muskoka Ontario. Call Suzanne Stamper, (416) 921-2109

companies and organizations to draw from an expanded pool of skills and expertise, thus enhancing their competitive edge. At the same time, we will be removing barriers which prevent a large segment of the population from achieving their full economic and social potential."

Canadian Human Rights Act amendments

Proposed amendments to the Canadian Human Rights Act were tabled in December, by the Honourable Kim Campbell, former Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada.

The amendments help the government fulfil commitments made in Toward Equality, the response to the report of the Parliamentary Committee on Equality Rights.

"The proposed amendments ensure that all persons are treated on the basis of their own qualities, not stereotypes, and are not unfairly excluded from employment or access to services," said Ms. Campbell.

The following, are among the proposed amendments:

- Sexual orientation will be a prohibited ground of discrimination; and
- Marital status will refer only to heterosexual couples.

Employers and providers of services will be required to make reasonable accommodation for people with special needs, including people with disabilities and members of ethnic and religious minorities.

\$12 million to help train 12,000 people

Minister of Skills Development Richard Allen announced in December, a new sectoral training agreement to train up to 12,000 production workers in Ontario's steel industry.

A sectoral training agreement is an agreement between government, labour and management, to invest in training workers in a particular industry.

The Ministry of Skills Development will contribute up to \$12 million to help fund a training

plan developed by the Canadian Steel Trade Employment Congress. The funding will pay for 50 per cent of direct training costs for three years.

Other industries that have sectoral training agreements in place include the electrical and electronics manufacturing industry and the auto parts industry.

The training programs provide workers with portable skills that help strengthen the industry.

People on the move

Operational Coordination Director, **Lynne Bullard**, will assume the role of Acting Regional Director, Central Region, February 1st. **Barry Whalen** will replace Lynne as Acting Director, Operational Coordination.

The MCSS Cochrane Office has moved. The new address is:

59 First Street
Cochrane, Ontario P0L 1C0
Telephone: (705) 272-4846
Fax: (705) 272-3581

There have been four new Family Benefits offices added to the Toronto area. The new addresses are:

- 1500 Royal York Road, Etobicoke, Ontario M9P 3B6 (416) 760-2400
- 47 Sheppard Ave. E., North York, Ontario M2N 5X5 (416) 314-6514
- 815 Danforth Ave., Toronto, Ontario M4J 1L2 (416) 314-5700
- 710 Progress Ave., Scarborough, Ontario M1H 2X3 (416) 314-5000

The Espanola Probation Office and the Espanola Income Maintenance Office have been relocated to the following address:

Ministry of Community and Social Services
456 Centre Street
Espanola, Ontario P0P 1C0
Telephone: (705) 869-2601

Regional News

A roundup of MCSS funding for community agencies

The following announcements were made in **December** and **January**. The city in each heading is the location of the ministry area and local office which works with the agency receiving the funds.

Southeast

Ottawa

Nelson House of Ottawa-Carleton, a 15-bed transition home for women who are victims of abuse, received a \$400,000 grant to purchase the currently-leased residence in which it operates. The purchase of the building will free more dollars for direct programs and services.

Southwest

Chatham

The Lester B. Pearson Centre in Chatham received \$29,509 for improvements and installation of a telecommunications system. The system will link the Lester B. Pearson Centre with the Kent Children's Aid Society, the Heritage Children's Centre, and the Kent County Children's Treatment Centre through electronic mail, facilitating more streamlined services.

Hamilton

In a 12-month pilot project in Hamilton, Martha House (a 20-bed women's shelter), and Catholic Family Services, will share a \$90,514 provincial grant to provide programs of continuing support for the women and children the facility serves. The aim of the project is to enhance services, reduce waiting lists and assist a greater number of women in crisis by combining the services the two agencies offer.

The YMCA of St. Catharines received a \$700,000 jobsOntario Capital grant to be used for construction of a child care component for their new building, replacing the existing downtown facility. The project is expected to provide employment to about 23 people for approximately six months.

Three Bears Pre-School in Brantford received \$39,666 to begin minor renovations. The improvements include refurbishment of the playground equipment, and upgrades to the facility itself.

Waterloo

The Kitchener Day Care Centre, in Kitchener, received a \$165,000 jobsOntario Capital grant to begin renovations to the existing 45-space facility. Renovations on the centre will provide employment for 11 people for approximately three months. jobsOntario Capital funding represents 50 per cent of the \$330,000 total estimated cost of the project, with the Region of Waterloo responsible for the balance.

Sarnia

Lambton College Early Childhood Education (ECE) Child Care Centre in Sarnia, received \$23,600 for improvements to the kitchen and to replace playground equipment. Lambton College's ECE Child Care Centre provides care for 86 children, as well as training opportunities for students of the college's ECE program.

North

Kenora

Sioux Lookout received \$20,000 to assure continued operation of the town's volunteer street patrol. Volunteers patrol streets, laneways, alleys and other areas which may provide shelter to homeless individuals or those who may be abusing such substances as alcohol. The individuals may have fallen asleep and may risk freezing to death. Emergency accommodation is offered to those who are rescued.

The Wabaseemong Band Council, in the community of Whitedog, received a \$755,000 jobsOntario Capital grant for construction of a replacement child care centre, and the addition of a new resource centre. The project is expected to provide employment to about 16 people for approximately nine months.

The Ojibway Band Council of Onegaming received an \$80,000 jobsOntario Capital grant to construct an infant wing at their existing child care centre. The project is expected to provide employment to about six people for approximately three months.

The Atikokan Non Profit Day Care Corporation in Atikokan, received jobsOntario Capital grants totalling \$500,000 for expansion and renovation of the Rainbow Centre's resource centre and child care program. The renovations are expected to provide employment to about 16 people for approximately eight months.

Timmins

Northern College in Porcupine received a \$406,000 jobsOntario Capital grant to begin construction of a replacement child care centre and lab school. Construction of the new building is expected to provide employment for about 11 people for approximately six months.

The Association Canadienne-Francaise de l'Ontario (ACFO) received grants totalling \$110,000 to establish a new francophone child care centre in Ecole Publique Lionel Gauthier, in Timmins. The grants consist of \$85,000 for equipment and renovations to the school, and a \$25,000 start-up grant to offset the initial costs of staffing and administration. The centre will accommodate up to 34 toddlers and pre-school children.

NEWS

Ministry of
Community and
Social Services
Ontario

MCSS *News* is published 10 times per year (monthly except for special circumstances December-January and July-August) to provide news about initiatives and program funding from the Ministry of Community and Social Services. It is distributed to Ontario social service agencies, associations, other governments, ministry offices, community centres, libraries and news media. We welcome your comments.

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NEWS



Ministry of
Community and
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Ontario

MARCH 1993 • VOLUME 3 • NUMBER 2



Tony Silipo

New Minister and Deputy Minister

Tony Silipo becomes the new Minister of Community and Social Services following a major government reorganization announced by Premier Bob Rae on February 3, 1993. Rosemary Proctor becomes the new Deputy Minister for MCSS.

The Premier said the changes throughout government, which combined some ministries with others, "underscore the importance we attach to economic renewal and jobs", and that "we are serious about reducing the size and complexity of government."

Mr. Silipo replaces Marion Boyd who has become Minister of the Attorney General. He comes to MCSS from the Ministry of Education. Prior to that, he served as chair of Management Board of Cabinet.

The new minister was elected MPP for the riding of Dovercourt in Toronto in September 1990. Born in Italy, he emigrated to Australia in 1967 at the age of nine, and came to Canada in 1970. He studied law at York University's Osgoode Hall Law School and set up practice as a lawyer.

He became an NDP trustee on the Toronto Board of Education in 1978 and served as chair of the Toronto board from December 1988 until his election to the Dovercourt riding.



Rosemary Proctor

As a school trustee, he supported the establishment of child care centres in schools and encouraged the creation of parent and community organizations.

New Deputy Minister Rosemary Proctor worked in MCSS between 1980 and 1986. She replaces Charles Pascal who has moved to

the new Ministry of Education and Training as Deputy Minister.

Most recently, Ms Proctor was the Assistant Deputy Secretary of the Policy and Priorities Board of Cabinet. Before that, she managed long-term care reform for MCSS and Health.



Government Child Care Subsidies

Number of children enrolled



Non-Subsidized



Subsidized

Rosemary has extensive experience in social and health policy. In the 1970s she was director of a community health centre, and she was director of planning and Assistant Deputy Minister of Community Services in Manitoba.

Government will provide 8,200 child care fee subsidies

Minister of Community and Social Services Minister Tony Silipo announced in March that the government will release 8,200 child care fee subsidies to get people back to work.

The criteria for subsidies allocated to support **jobsOntarioTraining** will be expanded to include social assistance recipients who, on their own initiative are finding jobs or training and education programs that will lead to jobs. "We want to support their efforts and allow them to benefit from the **jobsOntario** program by assisting with the child care subsidies," Mr. Silipo said.

The expanded criteria will also include teen mothers who are finishing high school to enhance their job prospects. "The lack of child care subsidies has been a huge barrier to single parents getting work and supporting their families. This is welcome news for them and it will make a considerable dent in the long child care subsidy waiting list," Mr. Silipo added.

The 8,200 fee subsidies which are funded 100 per cent by the government, are part of the 20,000 child care fee subsidies announced May 7, 1992, to provide support to participants in **jobsOntarioTraining**.

Social assistance rates increase

Basic allowances for General Welfare Assistance (GWA) and Family Benefits (FBA) will increase by one per cent, beginning in April. Maximum shelter allowances will also increase by one per cent.

"Like everyone else in Ontario, this government wants the social assistance system to work better," said former Minister of Community and

Social Services Marion Boyd at a Queen's Park news conference in January.

Mrs. Boyd added that the increase will mean the maximum social assistance rates will have increased approximately 13.5 per cent since 1990 and that Ontario's social assistance rates remain among the highest in the country.

Social assistance reform

The minister also said the government has demonstrated a strong commitment to social assistance reform by:

- investing \$215 million to implement many of the recommendations from the 1991 report **Back on Track**;
- creating a Council of Consumers to advise government on its social assistance program; and
- reaching a draft agreement between the province and municipalities in which the province will assume 100 per cent of the cost of GWA allowances in exchange for municipalities picking up other costs.

The government will be releasing a white paper this spring which will outline plans for implementing reform.

The new system will be guided by a number of principles:

- It will actively assist individuals to take advantage of education, training, employment and self-development opportunities;
- it will be based on need;
- assistance will meet basic needs;
- service will be provided in a fair, accessible and timely manner;
- the system will be efficient, open, and clearly accountable for its effectiveness.

jobsOntario funding will create 14,000 jobs

Premier Bob Rae announced in February, \$1.5 billion in **JobsOntario** funding that will help create about 14,000 jobs by 1996 in the Greater Toronto Area. The funding will help speed up the design and construction of five rapid transit projects.

An additional \$500 million in funding will come from municipal governments and the private sector is expected to contribute another \$500 million. Up to 50,000 direct and indirect jobs will be

created by the time the projects are completed in 10 years.

"We are investing for the future and benefiting from job creation now," the premier said.

He also said an investment partnership between the private sector, municipal government and provincial government is essential to the completion of the projects. Private sector participation will be achieved through the Ontario Transportation Capital Corporation.

Design of the transit systems will begin immediately and construction will start in spring, 1994.

Idea-based innovation is needed to prosper

Ontario 2002, a report submitted to the Premier's Council on Economic Renewal in February, suggests that fundamental change is needed to prosper in the next century.

Recommendations in the report suggest that the quality of life in Ontario will improve with idea-based innovation and new approaches to doing things.

"We believe if we adopt an appropriate far-reaching vision for the future, the citizens of Ontario will not only sustain, but improve the quality of their lives," says Dr. Fraser Mustard,

Chair of the Task Force to Review the Ontario Technology Fund in the Context of an Innovation-Based Society.

The Task Force envisions an Ontario in 10 years with one of the world's highest per capita incomes, a lower unemployment rate, high quality education and excellent transition programs for workers.

To work toward this new economic reality, task force members say in the report that idea-based innovation requires a shared framework of understanding and a greater degree of co-ordinated action among business, government, labour, communities and institutions.

For a copy of the report, contact Publications Ontario. Phone:(416)326-5300 or Fax:(416)326-5317.

New laws proposed to discourage kids from smoking

Some proposed initiatives outlined in a discussion paper released in January by former Health Minister Frances Lankin, will make it more difficult for children and teens to start smoking.

Coming up

March 23: Workshop on volunteer recruitment; North Halton Volunteer Centre; Milton, Ontario. Call (416) 876-2693

March 26: Geri-active: Groups for the Geriatric Population; Sunnybrook Health Science Centre, Toronto, Ontario. Call (416) 480-6100 ext. 4417

April 6: Workshop: Non-violent crisis Intervention; Canadian Mental Health Association, Ottawa-Carleton Branch, Ottawa, Ontario. Call (613) 727-7791

April 9: Clinical Skills Conference; Victoria Hospital, London, Ontario. Call (519) 667-6650

May 3: Workshop: Celebration of Childhood sponsored by Adventure Place; University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario. Call (416) 224-5890

May 5-7: Conference - Building Safer Communities with People who are Disabled; A conference to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Developmental Services of Leeds and Grenville; Brockville, Ontario. For more information contact Brigitte Irwin (613) 345-1290

June 1-4: Strengthening Practice: Client and Research Connection; Cleavelands House, Muskoka, Ontario. Call Suzanne Stamper, (416) 921-2109

June 4-5: Exhibition: 4th Annual People in Motion Show - "Canada's premier event for persons with disabilities, seniors and health care and rehabilitation professionals," Queen Elizabeth Building, Exhibition Place, Toronto, Ontario. Free Admission. Call (416) 455-4141

Public education, community programs and legislation will be used to help prevent people from starting to smoke, help smokers quit, and protect others from second-hand smoke.

"The use of tobacco is responsible for more than 13,000 preventable deaths each year," Ms Lankin said. "We are determined to reduce this critical health hazard and in particular prevent children from becoming addicted to tobacco."

Among the initiatives proposed to make it more difficult for children and teens to start smoking are:

- Establishing a minimum package size to discourage the sale of five- or 15-cigarette "kiddie packs;"
- ensure adult supervision of cigarette vending machines;
- raise the age for the legal purchase of tobacco from 18 to 19; and make retailers responsible for selling tobacco only to those of legal age and warnings and age limits on their premises.

Antisocial behaviour in youth

The Institute for the study of Antisocial Behaviour in Youth has opened a library of videos that describe techniques for working with antisocial youth. Some of the video titles include:

- The Art of Setting Limits
- Dealing with Anger
- Breaking up Fights
- Non-violent Crisis Intervention

For more information call (416) 326-0690.

People on the move

David Walker, who has been Executive Assistant to the Deputy Minister, accepted a position as Executive Assistant to the Deputy Minister of Education and Training, March 1st. **Donna Marafioti** has replaced David as Rosemary Proctor's new Executive Assistant.

Financial and Capital Planning Director, **Barbara Stewart**, joined the Ministry of Finance as Director, Crown Corporations in March. **Dennis Norton** will replace Barbara as Acting Director of the branch until a replacement is found.

The address and phone number of four new **Family Benefits** offices added to the Toronto area were announced in the February issue of *MCSS News*. The telephone numbers of two of those offices have been changed:

1500 Royal York Road, Etobicoke, M9P 3B6

(416) 760-2400

710 Progress Ave., Scarborough, M1H 2X3

(416) 314-9066

Regional News

A roundup of MCSS funding for community agencies

The following announcements were made in **January and February**. The city in each heading is the location of the ministry area and local office which works with the agency receiving the funds.

Southeast

Kingston

The **Town of Carleton Place** received a \$350,000 **jobsOntario Capital** grant to renovate and transform an old Canadian Pacific railway station into a child care centre which will accommodate up to 69 children. The renovations will provide employment for about 10 people for approximately six months.

Peterborough

A \$29,403 one-time grant will help provide a refurbished playground area for children at the **Curve Lake Day Care Centre** near **Lakefield** for toddlers and pre-schoolers.

Central

Mississauga

Halton Family Services - Oakville, **Women's Information and Support Centre of Halton**, and the **Counselling and Human Relations Institute - Burlington**, will share \$280,000 in provincial funding for wife assault prevention initiatives. The annual funding will be used to provide information and referral services, support for community-based counselling, and for improving services to women in need in North Halton's rural area.

Women and children in the **Peel Region** who are victims of abuse will benefit from \$510,000 in grants and annual funding to 14 social service

organizations. The funding will provide a network of support services which pay particular attention to immigrant and racial minority women, those in rural areas, francophones and women with a disability.

North

Kenora

Wabaseemoong Independent Nations in the community of **Whitedog**, received a \$755,000 **jobsOntario Capital** grant to build a replacement child care centre, and add a new resource centre. The new child care centre will accommodate up to 64 children and will include integrated spaces for children with developmental disabilities. The project is expected to provide employment for about 16 people for approximately nine months.

The **Atikokan Non Profit Day Care Corporation** in **Atikokan** received \$500,000 in **jobsOntario Capital** grants to begin upgrades and renovations to **Rainbow Centre**. This children's services centre houses a 63 space child care program which includes integrated spaces for children with developmental disabilities, a parent-child resource centre and a toy lending library. The renovations are expected to provide employment for about 16 people for approximately eight months.

The **Ojibways of Onegaming** received an \$80,000 **jobsOntario Capital** grant for construc-

tion of an infant wing at the existing child care centre. The expanded centre will provide child care services for up to six infants, 10 toddlers and 16 pre-school children. The project will provide employment for about six people for approximately three months.

Timmins

The **Fort Albany First Nation Band Council** will receive a \$72,200 capital grant to establish a child care centre for up to 24 pre-school children. The one-time capital will be used to renovate an existing building and to purchase furnishings and equipment.

Thunder Bay

The **Longlac First Nation Reserve**, near **Longlac**, received a \$512,000 **jobsOntario Capital** grant for construction of a new child care centre. The present child care centre, built 28 years ago, will be replaced by a new not-for-profit, 32-space facility. The grant will provide employment for approximately 15 to 20 people over a five month period.

The **Pic-Heron Bay Reserve** near **Marathon** received a \$400,000 **jobsOntario Capital** grant to build a 32-space child care facility. The construction of the project will create about 13 jobs over a six-month period.

NEWS



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NEWS



Ministry of
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APRIL 1993 • VOLUME 3 • NUMBER 3

Council of consumers to advise government on social assistance

The membership of a new Council of Consumers to advise the government on matters relating to social assistance was announced at the beginning of April, by Tony Silipo, Ontario's Minister of Community and Social Services.

The 16 members of the council are all consumers or former consumers of social assistance and represent various geographical areas of the province. The council will provide direct and ongoing advice about how to make the social assistance system more efficient and effective.

The council will be chaired by Louise Dubé, who will move to Toronto with her five-year-old daughter to assume the full-time position. Bilingual, Ms Dubé studied political science at Laurentian University and has been involved in

community organizations and aboriginal and women's groups in Sudbury.

Other members of the council are Deborah Bazylewski, Carol Hanlon and Paul Lainen, representing Northwestern Ontario; Leslie Van Every, Patricia Loosemore and Nicole Petrant-Rennie, representing Northeastern Ontario; Shawna Swan and Debbie Wilson, representing Southwestern Ontario; Katherine Mephram and Herbert Stewart, representing Southeastern Ontario; and Dianne Howell, Ginger Mitchell, Clem Okonkwo, Robert Reid and Ronnie Summers-Wickens, representing Central Ontario.

"From the work that has already been done in the area of social assistance reform, we have learned that listening to consumers helps us to better understand the strengths and weaknesses of the system. The Council of Consumers will provide direct and ongoing advice about how to change and improve the system. They will also help ensure that the system upholds the rights of consumers," said Mr. Silipo.



Members of the Council of Consumers -- Front row, left to right, Patricia Loosemore, Shawna Swan, Louise Dubé (Chair), Ronnie Summers-Wickens, and Deborah Bazylewski. Back row, left to right, Paul Lainen, Dianne Howell, Katherine Mephram, Ginger Mitchell, Herbert Stewart, Nicole Petrant-Rennie, Leslie Van Every, Debbie Wilson, Clem Okonkwo, and Carol Hanlon. Missing: Robert Reid.

Grier outlines reform of Long-Term Care

On April 7, saying that "the time for actual change has arrived," Health Minister, Ruth Grier unveiled a blueprint that will reshape long-term health care in Ontario. She reaffirmed her government's commitment to spending \$647-million to create an "efficient, progressive, community-based system that will offer appropriate care no matter where in Ontario people live" and said "it will give people choice; ensure they get the least intrusive services they need when they need them; and that will be sensitive to individual dignity and the province's cultural diversity."

Describing the current situation as "a patchwork of some very good services," she promised that "more people will be better served once they become part of a co-ordinated and integrated system." She said that one phone call to a community agency will give access to the entire system. Caring for the elderly in the community or in their homes will make acute-care beds more readily available for those who need them.

Reforms include:

- a \$40 million investment in supportive housing for the elderly and for people with disabilities, geared to their needs and independence.
- \$37.6 million to expand community support services other than housing: meals on wheels, transportation, attendant care, for example. She described this as part of the government's ongoing effort to reallocate funds to provide a better balance between community and hospital services.
- \$206 million, previously announced, to improve care for people in nursing homes and homes for the aged. The government is awaiting the results of the Chronic Care Study, expected in the next few weeks.
- \$133 million to expand the Integrated Home-maker Program, which helps the frail elderly and adults with disabilities to remain in their homes.
- \$4.82 million for palliative care, which will be used to train physicians, community workers, and volunteers.
- The government has set aside \$30 million to re-train displaced hospital workers, upgrade their skills, and help them find jobs; long-term service providers will give hiring priority to workers who have been laid off.

Mrs. Grier said that, because the government is concerned about people, most of them women, who act as unpaid and unrecognized caregivers to family members, it is proceeding with plans for a task force that will examine and make recommendations on compensation for family caregivers.

Long-term health care committees of district health councils, which will include representatives of consumers, providers, and local government, will be responsible for planning and recommending services in their communities. The government will give preference to not-for-profit services, in keeping with its commitment to the goals of the Canada Health Act.

Mrs. Grier thanked the groups and individuals who participated in nearly 3,000 meetings across Ontario, and said that, as a result, the long-term health care plan had been refined.

Ministry announces reorganization

On March 15, Deputy Minister Rosemary Proctor, announced that functions in the Ministry of Community and Social Services' four regional offices will be reassigned to other parts of the Ministry. The regional offices, located in London, Toronto, Kingston and Sault Ste. Marie will be closed over the next year as part of a Ministry reorganization.

The change is designed to streamline operations and improve decision making, create better links between policy development and program delivery and improve accountability.

Details of the reorganization along with a specific timetable for implementation will be finalized by the end of June with the expectation that the process will be completed by April of next year.

The functions of the regional offices will be transferred either to area or corporate offices. The changes will help the Ministry to build on its strengths and position it to deliver on a complex and challenging agenda. They reflect the need for a clear focus on the management of system rather than individual cases, except where the Ministry delivers services directly.

When the changes have been made, Area Managers will report to the Assistant Deputy Minister of Operations. The program and management support functions of the Operations Division will be redesigned. Some of the functions currently performed by regional offices, along with

some of the work currently done by the Operational Co-ordination Branch will be brought together in a single support branch within the Operations Division.

In addition, a branch with full responsibility for services for people with developmental disabilities will be created. Ministry Facility Administrators will report to the new branch, while accountability for the management of community-based services in this program area will remain with the area office. The new branch will provide program support, planning and monitoring for all program services and will assume responsibility for policy development in this crucial area of the Ministry's services.

Lower-paid women to share in \$50 million pay equity down payment program

The Ontario government announced pay equity downpayments of up to \$2,500 to be paid this spring to thousands of lower-wage working women in the broader public sector.

Details of the \$50-million pay equity downpayment program were announced jointly by Labour Minister Bob Mackenzie and Marion Boyd, Minister Responsible for Women's Issues. The downpayment program is designed for a wide range of workers in the broader public sector including: home support workers, homemaker services, and workers in women's shelters, public libraries, immigrant services, community mental health programs and developmental services such as associations for community living.

"As we promised last November, the downpayment program will give thousands of women an early and meaningful start on the achievement of pay equity," said Mr. Mackenzie. "It also reflects the government's determination to keep fighting wage discrimination against women, in spite of difficult economic times."

"Women's equality is impossible if women's social and legal gains are not matched by economic advances," said Ms. Boyd. "Pay equity is one step toward enabling women to receive wages that reflect the value of the work they do."

Government releases 8,200 child care fee subsidies

To get people back to work and stabilize the child care system, the Ontario government is expanding the criteria for child care fee subsidies under *jobsOntario Training* and releasing 8,200 subsidies throughout the province.

The expansion of the subsidies allocated to support *jobsOntario Training* participants means that social assistance recipients who, on their own, find jobs or training and education programs that lead to jobs, may now qualify for child care assistance. In addition, teen mothers who are finishing high school to enhance their job prospects may also qualify for the child care subsidies.

The 8,200 fee subsidies are 100 per cent funded by the government and part of the 20,000 child care fee subsidies announced in May 1992, to provide support to participants in *jobsOntario Training*.

Regional News

A roundup of MCSS funding for community agencies. The following announcements were made at the end of **February** and in **March**. The city in each heading is the location of the ministry area and local office which works with the agency receiving the funds.

Central

Mississauga

Community Living Oakville will receive a \$296,000 capital grant to purchase and furnish a home for four people with developmental disabilities in Oakville. The home will replace an existing rental facility and offer a more permanent residence for the individuals.

The Burlington Association for Community Living will receive a provincial capital grant of \$579,435 to pay off the mortgages of four Burlington group homes. Two of the homes provide residential support services for six children, and the other two serve nine adults.

Toronto

George Brown College of Applied Arts and Technology, and the Municipality of Metropolitan

Toronto will share \$2.4 million in **jobsOntario Capital** grants for child care programs. George Brown College will use \$1.4 million to establish a new 52-space child care centre on its Casa Loma campus. The Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto will use \$1 million to renovate the existing 104-space Jesse Ketchum Child Care Centre.

Construction on the new George Brown child care centre is expected to provide employment for about 19 people for approximately 12 months. The renovations at the Jesse Ketchum Child Care Centre will take approximately 12 months to complete and employ about 15 people.

Northern

North Bay

The West Nipissing Child Care Corporation will receive a \$1 million **jobsOntario Capital** grant to construct a hub-model, multi-service child care centre in Sturgeon Falls. The centre will accommodate children's programs including: a child care centre, a parent-child drop in, private home child care for rural families and serve as the base for the mobile toy lending library. The project is expected to take approximately nine months to complete and provide work for about 23 people.

Thunder Bay

Mahmowenchike Inc. will receive an \$800,000 **jobsOntario Capital** Grant to construct northern Ontario's first urban child care centre for Aboriginal children. The centre will be built in Thunder Bay and provide employment for 12 people for approximately nine months.

Southeast

Oshawa

Four Oshawa child care centres will share in provincial funding of \$101,463. The centres, Kingsway College Early Childhood Centre; Hillsdale Day Care and Nursery School; Evangel Day Care Centre; and The Children's Place will use the funding for a variety of purposes including: repairs, new equipment purchases and in some instances offset some staffing and operating costs.

Ottawa

Andrew Fleck Child Care Centre will receive a \$685,000 **jobsOntario Capital** grant to complete Phase II renovations and upgrades to the 95-space centre in Ottawa. Previously the centre

received \$115,000 in **jobsOntario Capital** to assist with the costs of the work under Phase I of the centre's renovation project. Renovations under Phase II are expected to take approximately 12 months and employ about 12 people.

The Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton, Centre Educatif Beausoleil Education Centre, will receive a \$400,000 **jobsOntario Capital** grant to renovate its existing premises and amalgamate its francophone child care program with the Les Petits Bouts de Choux. Once complete the renovations will provide accommodation for a more cost-effective combined program of child care for up to 10 infants, 15 toddlers, and 24 preschool children. The project is expected to create approximately 18 jobs and take about four months to complete.

Southwest

Hamilton

Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation will receive a \$515,000 **jobsOntario Capital** grant. The grant will be used to replace the First Nation's child care centre which should take approximately six months and employ about 16 people. The project to construct a 48-space child care centre is expected to begin next fall.

Waterloo

Notre Dame of St. Agatha will receive \$700,000 annually from the province operate a new open custody and detention program, within the Regional Municipality of Waterloo, for young people in conflict with the law. The program will provide young people, primarily ages 14 to 16, with support counselling and encouragement to become law abiding citizens. Notre Dame of St. Agatha is a children's mental health centre located in Waterloo.

Waterloo

Kitchener-Waterloo YWCA will receive \$109,000 in provincial funds to establish a 41-space child care centre in the new Kitchener city hall. The one-time funding consists of a \$52,070 start-up grant to cover initial costs of staffing and administration and \$56,930 to purchase toys, equipment and furnishing.

In addition, the YMCA will be provided with \$76,000 annually in wage subsidy funding. The new YW City Kids Day Care will be licensed to provide care for up to 10 infants, 15 toddlers and 16 preschool children. The new city hall and child care centre is expected to open this September.

Coming up

April 23: Workshop - Family Therapy applied to substance abuse; Addiction Research Foundation, Kingston, Ontario. Call (613) 546-4266

April 24-27: Conference - Canadian Youth Against Impaired Driving; Toronto, Ontario. Call (204) 957-7317

April 27: Workshops - Non-crisis Intervention and Non-violent Crisis Intervention; Canadian Mental Health Associations, Ottawa Carleton Branch, Ottawa, Ontario. Call (613) 737-7791

April 28: Workshop - Relationship of Faith to Healing; Community Resources and Initiatives, Toronto, Ontario. Call (416) 924-8988

April 29-30: Conference - Psycho-socio rehabilitation; Clark Institute of Psychiatry and Queen Street Mental Health Centre, Toronto, Ontario. Call (416) 979-6906

May 3: Workshop - Celebration of Childhood sponsored by Adventure Place; University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario. Call (416) 224-5890

May 3-5: Conference - Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies and The Institute for the Prevention of Child Abuse; Ottawa, Ontario. Call (416) 366-8317

May 5-7: Conference - Building Safer Communities with People who are Disabled; A conference to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Developmental Services of Leeds and Grenville; Brockville, Ontario. For more information, contact Bigitte Irwin (613) 345-1290

May 12: Symposium - Child Witness, Child Perpetrator; Dealing with Sexual Abuse in the Canadian Justice System; CPRI, Recreation Hall - Laneway - Number 1, Sanatorium Road, London, Ontario. Call Volunteer Services (519) 471-2540 ext. 2074

May 12-13: Conference - Ontario Association of Non-profit Homes and Services for Seniors; Sheraton Toronto East - Hotel and Towers, Scarborough, Ontario. Call (416) 299-1500

May 13-14: Conference - "The Year 2000 - Are We Ready? The Ontario Gerontology Association; Workshops and seminars presented by leaders in gerontology, subjects such as: behavioural management, community development, health promotion needs assessment, recreation, social policy, spiritual needs, validation therapy. Holiday Inn, Downtown City Hall, 89 Chestnut Street, Toronto, Ontario. Call Debby Vigoda (416) 660-1056

May 20-22: Conference - "Our Aging Workforce: Defining and Facing the Challenge"; Centre for Gerontology; Edmonton Convention Centre, Edmonton, Alberta. Call Linda Abraham, (403) 492-4718

May 26-29: Conference - Third Annual Child Care Conference - over 150 workshops; Canadian Child Care Federation; Westin Harbour Castle Hotel, Toronto, Ontario. Call (613) 729-5289

May 28-29: Conference - "Discover Conductive Education" (empowering educational approach to training and exercise for motor impaired individuals); Ontario March of Dimes; Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, Toronto, Ontario. Call Shirley Teolis (registration) (416) 425-0501 or 1-800-263-DIME

June 1-4: Strengthening Practice: Client and Research Connection; Cleavelands House, Muskoka, Ontario. Call Suzanne Stamper, (416) 921-2109

June 4-5: Exhibition: 4th Annual People in Motion Show - "Canada's premier event for persons with disabilities, seniors and health care rehabilitation professionals," Queen Elizabeth Building, Exhibition Place, Toronto, Ontario. Free Admission. Call (416) 455-4141

NEWS

Ministry of
Community and
Social Services
Ontario

MCSS *News* is published 10 times per year (monthly except for December-January and July-August) to provide news about initiatives and program funding from the Ministry of Community and Social Services. It is distributed to Ontario social service agencies, associations, other governments, ministry offices, community centres, libraries and news media. We welcome your comments.

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NEWS



Ministry of
Community and
Social Services

Ontario

MAY 1993 • VOLUME 3 • NUMBER 4

Ontario's Reduced Spending Plan for 1993-94



Ontario's Finance Minister, Floyd Laughtren, unveiled the government's \$4 billion Expenditure Control Plan, on April 23. The plan involves measures affecting every ministry and is part of the government's balanced package to deal with the debt problem. The Expenditure Control Plan also includes the negotiation of a social contract with the public sector, and increased revenues through tax and non-tax measures and asset sales.

"Escalating debt, driven by declining revenues, threatens to undermine our ability to provide important public services and invest in jobs and people," Mr. Laughtren said.

He said the Expenditure Control Plan involved a comprehensive review of government programs and operations and the exploration of a range of options.

"We have made some very tough, but fair, decisions," he said. "The largest savings will come from the government's own operations. No ministry has been exempt from this process.

"Every effort has been made to ensure that the burden is shared fairly. Every effort has also been made to ensure that those who are most vulnerable in our society are protected as much as possible.

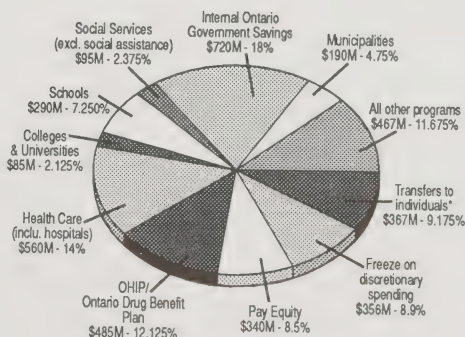
"Although we have achieved a great deal with this expenditure reduction plan, we are still wres-

ting with a significant deficit for 1993-94. The government remains committed to bringing the deficit in below \$10 billion, which means we still have more work ahead of us."

The Expenditure Control Plan was guided by four important principles - fairness; putting the government's own house in order; improving efficiency throughout the public sector; and protecting those who are most vulnerable.

F A C T S

Ontario's \$4 Billion Expenditure Control Plan



*Transfers to Individuals includes Social Assistance - \$175M
Ontario Student Assistance Program - \$178M

Expenditure Control Plan Impacts on MCSS Services

One of the important principles that served as a guide in the design of the Expenditure Control Plan, was to protect those who are most vulnerable.

Even though social assistance and other social services make up almost one-fifth of the government's operating budget, reductions to those programs account for only 8 per cent of the Expenditure Control Plan.

Reduction initiatives at the Ministry of Community and Social Services will amount to \$313.3 million in savings:

Social Assistance - Caseload and Program Management (\$173.8 million in savings). Improve caseload management through reviews of case files for eligibility and benefit levels, review of cases with sponsorship breakdowns, and limit retroactive payments; eliminate or reduce some special benefits including funding for home repairs, life insurance premiums and moving expenses; reduce or cancel payments for young recipients whose parents are legally obligated to support them and provide employment preparation assistance to parents with children over 12 years of age; reduce exemption for Supports to Employment Program; take into account other financial resources recipients may have when calculating benefits; and introduce regionally variable shelter ceilings.

Transfer Payments (\$66.6 million in savings) Maintain transfer payments to social service agencies at 92/93 levels. Review and restructure employment and counselling services.

Children's Services (\$9.9 million in savings). Phase out funding for the Institute for the Prevention of Child Abuse and partially re-invest funding for training for staff of ministry-funded children's services; reduce funding for services such as consultations and training provided by psychiatrists; require agencies to collect Children's Special Allowance from the federal government; and for certain children's services, implement parental contributions, based on ability to pay.

Child Care Fee Subsidies (\$11.2 million in savings). Extend MCSS's commitment to new fee

subsidies in child care spaces under **jobsOntarioTraining** program until 1995/96; and due to vacancies in existing child care spaces, the Ministry will not need to build the number of new spaces previously forecast.

Efficiency (\$4.5 million in savings). Improve efficiency in social assistance program through the mandatory direct deposit of cheques into social assistance recipients' bank accounts, require a monthly reporting of income by recipients and reduce the number of administration forms.

Closure of Facilities (\$18.8 million in savings) Close Oxford Regional Centre in 1996; continue to provide resources for community living for people with developmental disabilities; and reduce staffing in certain facilities in line with the movement of residents to the community.

Operational Streamlining (\$28.5 million in savings). Continue to restructure and streamline the Ministry's corporate and field operations; close the four regional offices by April 1994; absorb increases in salaries and wages; adopt economies in administration and management practices; and over the next three years, reduce administration costs by 10 per cent (excluding directly-operated facilities).

New Ministry of Labour — Health and Safety Regulation

To provide protection for workers in health care sector

On April 28, the Day of Mourning for people who died because of workplace accidents or occupational diseases, the Minister of Labour, Bob Mackenzie, announced a new regulation designed to meet the health and safety needs of health care workers.

The regulation will provide protection to more than 300,000 health care workers in approximately 3,000 facilities in Ontario when it takes effect June 1. That is more workers than are employed in the construction and mining sectors combined.

The regulation will apply to hospitals, psychiatric facilities, nursing homes, group homes for adults with developmental disabilities and a

variety of facilities covered by the Developmental Services Act and the Child and Family Services Act.

"This new regulation recognizes the unique health and safety problems faced by people who work in health care facilities," the Minister said. "It includes sections that are tailor-made to the special needs of these workers and will play an important role in applying the *Ontario Occupational Health and Safety Act*."

Among the regulation's provisions that relate specifically to health care facilities are sections dealing with the control of infections, safe laboratory procedures and the safe handling and disposal of hazardous biological waste and of contaminated needles and syringes.

At present, health care workers use existing industrial and construction health and safety regulations as guidelines for protection. The new regulation was developed through consultation and co-operation among management, labour and government.

"Through this tripartite process, a regulation has been created that will help make health care facilities safer and healthier places to work," said Mr. Mackenzie. "This, in turn, will mean fewer work days lost and lower workers' compensation costs."

5,000 Children Treated to Blue Jays Kids Day

On April 10, about 5,000 children and their adult escorts from across Ontario were treated to a major league baseball game at Toronto's Skydome. In its eleventh year, "Blue Jays Kids Day" is the result of a partnership amongst the Blue Jays Baseball Club, the Variety Club of Ontario - Tent 28, and the Ministry of Community and Social Services.

This year, "Blue Jays Kids Day" was a winner all around. The Blue Jays beat the Cleveland Indians, and children, who otherwise would probably never travel to Toronto and see a major league baseball game, were given that experience.

The Toronto Blue Jays Baseball Club donated the ticket seats; the Variety Club, the world's largest children's charity, paid the costs for transportation of the children and es-

corts; and the Ministry of Community and Social Services provided staff who worked with local children's service agencies across the province to choose the children and coordinate the event. MacDonald's Restaurants provided each child and escort with a hot dog and pop during the game.

A special thank-you to all staff from the Ministry and those from children's community agencies for contributing to this special day for special children.

jobsOntario Youth

The Ontario government will create 10,000 new jobs this summer through **jobsOntarioYouth**. The \$25 million program will be divided into three components:

- \$14 million to create about 6,000 new summer jobs for youth, with special outreach for those facing systemic barriers to employment. Summer jobs are to be created in cities where youth unemployment is at its highest: **Toronto (3,800 jobs); Ottawa (1,000 jobs); Windsor (700 jobs); and Hamilton (500 jobs)**
- \$7 million to create approximately 4,000 jobs in existing summer programs (Environmental Youth Corps; Summer Experience; and Northern Training Opportunities Program [NOR-TOP]). Jobs will be created primarily in areas outside of Toronto, Hamilton, Windsor and Ottawa
- \$4 million to maintain and enhance year-round services in two existing youth employment programs.

jobsOntarioYouth is open to all unemployed young people between 15 and 24 years of age or up to 29 years of age for young people with disabilities. Students and non-students are eligible and may apply through participating youth employment counselling centres and community organizations.

Community employment agencies will seek the help of employers to create as many jobs as possible. Employers can contribute to the salary of young people hired under the program, or take some placements without subsidies. Placements can last up to 10 weeks beginning on or after May 4th and must end by September 4th.

Employers in the private, non-profit, and public sectors are eligible to participate in **jobsOntarioYouth**.

For more information call the Ontario Youth and Training Hotline at 1-800-387-0777.



Coming Up

May 28-29: Conference - "Discover Conductive Education" (empowering educational approach to training and exercise for motor impaired individuals); **Ontario March of Dimes**; Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, Toronto, Ontario. Call Shirley Teolis (registration): (416) 425-0501 or 1-800-263-DIME.

June 1-4: Strengthening Practice: Client and Research Connection; Cleveland House, Muskoka, Ontario. Call Suzanne Stamper: (416) 921-2109.

June 4-5: Exhibition: 4th Annual People in Motion Show - "Canada's premier event for persons with disabilities, seniors and health care rehabilitation professionals," Queen Elizabeth Building, Exhibition Place, Toronto, Ontario. Free Admission. Call: (416) 455-4141.

June 14: Annual General Meeting of Balance (organization offering learning opportunities for independent living and community

access for individuals with visual impairment), Toronto City Hall, Meeting Room #3, Toronto, Ontario. For information, phone: (416) 236-1796.

June 21-23: Conference: "Community Based Training; the Accessible Alternative"; the Ontario Network of Employment Skills Training Projects (ONeSTeP), Geneva Park Conference Centre, Orillia, Ontario. Contact: (416) 591-7151.

August 7: Huronia Regional Centre (HRC) Special Reunion; Huronia Regional Centre Alumni Committee; The Meeting Place, Room 121, Boardroom B, Huronia Regional Centre Administration Building, Orillia, Ontario. Over the past decade, about 300 residents have moved from Huronia Regional Centre to live in the community - All former residents and clients are invited to attend. Call Claire Burrige at HRC: (705) 326-7361.

Regional News

A roundup of MCSS funding for community agencies. The following announcements were made during April and early May. The city in each heading is the location of the ministry area and local office which works with the agency receiving the funds.

jobsOntarioTraining Child Care Fee Subsidies Update

On May 7, 1992, MCSS announced up to 20,000 child care fee subsidies would be provided to support participants in **jobsOntarioTraining**. Last month, MCSS NEWS reported that 8,200 of the original subsidies would be released to expand the criteria to help people get back to work.

The criteria for the 8,200 fee subsidies now includes social recipients who, on their own, locate work or training and educational opportunities that lead to jobs, as well as teenaged mothers who are attending high school to better compete for jobs.

The subsidies are now in the process of being released to areas across Ontario. During April and

the beginning of May, the following child care fee subsidies under **jobsOntarioTraining** were released:

- up to 529 to the **Barrie area**;
- up to 341 to the **Kingston area**;
- up to 579 to the **London area**;
- up to 707 to the **Ottawa area**;
- up to 107 to the **Sault Ste. Marie area**;
- up to 130 to the **Thunder Bay area**;
- up to 341 to the **Timmins area**, and
- up to 444 to the **Windsor area**.

North Region

North Bay

The West Nipissing Association for Community Living will receive \$89,000 to expand two of its programs to help meet the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities living in the community. The Sturgeon Falls-based association will expand its Life and Community Living Skills Program and the Supported Independent Living Program. The first program provides assistance to individuals with complex needs and the other serves the needs of individuals living in semi-independent settings.

The **North Bay and District Association for Community Living** received \$522,800 in provincial funding to expand four of its programs to meet the needs of people with developmental disabilities. All four programs offer services and supports, based on individual need to enable persons with developmental disabilities to live as independently as possible in non-institutional settings.

Sudbury

One Tot Stop Day Care Inc. received \$83,000 in *jobsOntarioCapital* to renovate space for a new child care facility at the S. Geiger Public School in **Massey**. The renovation project at the school is expected to create five jobs and take three months to complete. When finished the centre will provide space to care for up to 31 children.

The **First Baptist Church in Garson** received an \$83,000 *jobsOntarioCapital* grant to establish a new 35-space child care centre within the church. The renovations needed to establish Teddy Bear Day Care will create approximately three months work for five people in the area.

Southeast Region

Kingston

Nova Children's Centre, a child care centre, located in **Belleville**, received a \$170,000 *jobsOntarioCapital* grant to complete renovations

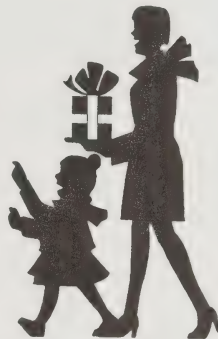
and expand its program. The renovations to the new residence will create employment for about nine people and take four months to complete.

Ottawa

The **Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton (RMOC)**, will receive a \$375,000 *jobsOntarioCapital* grant to undertake renovations and expand the child care program at St. Luke's Child Care Centre. The renovations at a new site will allow the program to expand by 29 new child care spaces and provide work for about 15 people over four months.

Special Anniversary

Congratulations to the members and staff of the **Sudbury and District Association for Community Living** on its 40th anniversary. For information on celebration activities contact: Carole Groulx, Executive Assistant, (705) 674-1451.



NEWS



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NEWS



Ministry of
Community and
Social Services

Ontario

JUNE 1993 • VOLUME 3 • NUMBER 5

Ontario's budget released

Plans for investing in jobs, protecting public services and curbing the growth of debt were spelled out this month, when the Ontario Budget for 1993 was released by Finance Minister Floyd Laughren.

The 1993 Ontario Budget will put Ontario back to work by:

- investing almost \$4 billion to build highways, transit services, telecommunications, hospitals and schools in order to create jobs and renew the province's infrastructure;
- investing more than \$1 billion in training and adjustment to help workers get good jobs in the new economy;
- helping local communities guide their own economic future through **jobsOntario** Community Action, a new program which will support local economic development.

The Minister said that the Province has put its finances on a sound footing in order to preserve vital services and investment in jobs. The deficit, which had threatened to climb to almost \$17 billion without action by Government, is forecast at \$9.2 billion.

He also said that unless the growth of debt is controlled, interest costs paid to lenders will take too much money away from programs that benefit Ontarians.

The Province will save about \$4 billion through its Expenditure Control Plan, outlined last month, and \$2 billion through the reduction in compensation costs for workers in the public service and broader public sector. As a result, for the first time since 1942, operating spending will de-

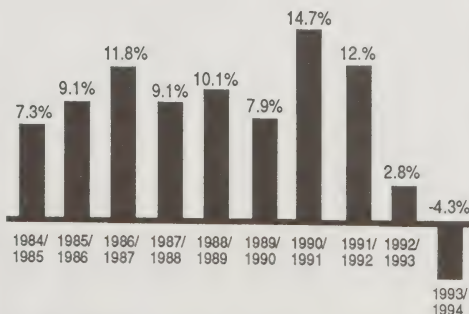
cline and program spending, excluding interest costs, will fall by 4.3 per cent.

The Province's revenues will benefit from an increase in the Personal Income Tax rate and the surtax on higher income earners. As well, Retail Sales Tax will be paid on some items previously exempt.

The expenditure and revenue measures mean Ontario will borrow less than it would have otherwise, and save almost \$5 billion in debt interest costs over the next three years.

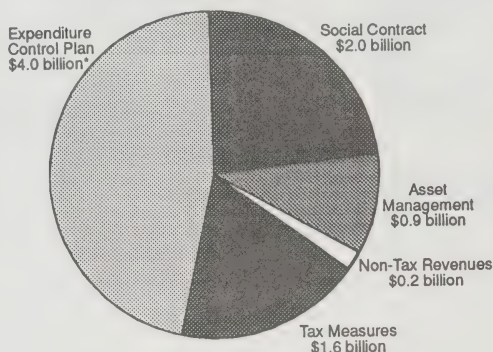
The cornerstone of the budget is to support investment that will strengthen the recovery and create jobs, maintain services that people in Ontario value, control government spending, achieve the planned \$2 billion in savings in compensation costs to workers in the public service and broader public sector, introduce fairness in taxation and control the growth in debt.

Growth in Spending on Operating Costs



A Balanced Plan to Reduce the Deficit

Total: \$8.7 billion in 1993-94



*Includes \$1.5 billion in savings for 1993-94 that were decided before March 30.

Alternatives to sheltered workshops to be developed for people with disabilities

A decision not to execute a planned \$1.5 million constraint on Sheltered Workshops and the establishment of a province-wide Working Group to provide recommendations on alternatives to the workshops was announced in May by Tony Silipo, Ontario's Minister of Community and Social Services.

Mr. Silipo said the decision will help to bridge the gap between the present workshop system and the development of community-based alternatives to that system. The major task of the Working Group is to develop recommendations for non-vocational community based supports and services as alternatives to sheltered workshops and segregated settings for people with disabilities.

"Defining community-based alternatives is essential for the dignity and well-being of people with disabilities," he said. "It is important that these alternatives be available before the current system is scaled down."

In May 1992, the Ministry announced a \$ 5 million constraint for sheltered workshops over two fiscal years, 1992/1993 and 1993/1994. Of this, \$2 million over the same two years, was

to be redirected to supported employment in order to continue the movement toward community-based supports and services.

The announcement by the Minister means that the Ministry will not be implementing \$1.5 million of the constraint on sheltered workshops in the 1993/1994 fiscal year. Also \$1 million will continue to be redirected toward supported employment and other alternative supports based in the community.

Nine Ottawa-area agencies receive designation

Ontario's Minister of Community and Social Services, Tony Silipo officially presented designation certificates, under the French Language Services Act, to nine community agencies in Ottawa this month. The designation assures the area's french-speaking population of services in their own language and underlines the efforts of the agencies to serve their french-speaking clients.

The nine agencies join with the other 21 community agencies, funded by the Ministry of Community and Social Services, in the Ottawa-Carleton, Prescott-Russell, Stormont, Dundas, Glengarry and Renfrew areas, who have been designated under the French Language Services Act since 1989.

The newly designated agencies are:

- Association pour l'intégration sociale d'Ottawa-Carleton (**Vanier**);
- Service familial Catholique d'Ottawa-Carleton/Catholic Family Service of Ottawa-Carleton (**Ottawa**);
- Conseil de planification des services communautaires de Prescott-Russell (**Hawkesbury**);
- Société d'aide à l'enfance d'Ottawa-Carleton/Children's Aid Society of Ottawa-Carleton (**Ottawa**);
- Société d'aide à l'enfance de Stormont, Dundas et Glengarry/Children's Aid Society of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry (**Cornwall**);
- Centre Roberts-Smart/Roberts/Smart Centre (**Ottawa**);
- Garderie "La Clémentine" (**Ottawa**);
- Centre de ressources communautaires de Gloucester/Gloucester Centre for Community Resources (**Gloucester**);
- L'Arche Ottawa (**Ottawa**).

Stabilization funding announced for 20 women's centres

Operational funding totalling \$1 million, announced by Women's Issues Minister, Marion Boyd, will help to stabilize 20 of Ontario's women's centres. The Minister said that a significant number of the centres would be in imminent danger of closing without the funding.

Fifty thousand dollars in stabilization funding will be provided to each centre. The 20 centres receiving funding are geographically diverse and provide a range of services, particularly to under-served communities, including women with disabilities, immigrant and racial minority women and aboriginal women.

This is the first time that operational funding for these centres has been offered by either the federal or provincial governments. The funding will be administered through the Ontario Women's Directorate. The program will be reviewed and evaluated in two years.

Women's Centres to receive stabilization funding are:

Aim for Change, **Aurora**; Bronwen Wallace Centre for Women and Children, **Kingston**; Common Ground Women's Centre, **Toronto**; Maggie's Resource Centre, **Bancroft**; Native Women's Resource Centre, **Toronto**; North York Women's Centre, **Toronto**; Northwestern Ontario Women's Centre, **Thunder Bay**; Rexdale Women's Centre, **Toronto**; Riverdale Immigrant Women's Centre, **Toronto**; Scarborough Women's Centre, **Toronto**; Sudbury Women's Centre/Centre des femmes de Sudbury, **Sudbury**; Times Change, **Toronto**; Windsor Women Working with Immigrant Women, **Windsor**; Windsor Women's Incentive Centre, **Windsor**; Women Today, **Clinton**; Women's Centre of Hamilton Wentworth, **Hamilton**; Women's Information and Support Centre of Halton, **Oakville**; Women's Place Kenora, **Kenora**; Women's Place/Place aux femmes, **Ottawa**; Working Women's Community Centre, **Toronto**.

Council of Consumers Update

The Council of Consumers has an office. The council was appointed in April by MCSS Minister, Tony Silipo, to ensure that consumers of social assistance in Ontario have a direct way to make their advice and experience on issues related to social assistance known to government.

Chaired by Louise Dubé, the sixteen-member council are either consumers or former consumers of social assistance and represent different geographical areas of the province. This enables council members to consult with consumers in communities across the province so that all consumers have an opportunity to participate in the work of the council.

The Council can be contacted at:
Council of Consumers
880 Bay Street - 3rd Floor
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2B6
Phone: (416) 326-6059 - Chair
or
(416) 326-6058 - Reception

Province funds Humberwood Community Centre and School

The Ontario government will share in funding a \$23 million school and community centre project in Etobicoke. The funding was announced in early June.

The Humberwood Community Centre project includes two elementary schools for more than 1,400 students of the Etobicoke Board of Education and the Metropolitan Separate School Board. It also includes a child care centre, a community library, park space, and recreation and community facilities. Funding for the project comes from both provincial and local levels.

The Ministry of Education and Training is providing an estimated grant of \$6.2 million, and the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Recreation a grant of \$784,000. The Etobicoke Board of Education, the Metropolitan Separate School Board, and the City of Etobicoke will share the remaining costs.

Coming Up

July 13-17: 1993 International Conference on Autism; the Autism Society of Canada and the Autism Society of America, with support from the Autism Society of Ontario, Kerry's Place, and The Geneva Centre; Regal Constellation Hotel, Toronto, Ontario. Call Margaret Whelan, Executive Director at The Geneva Centre: (416) 322-7877.

July 18-23: Institute on Addiction Studies: Challenges, Choices and Changes from Treatment to Health Promotion; Concerns Canada; McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario. Call Lorraine Guiliani: (416) 293-3400.

August 7: Huronia Regional Centre (HRC) Special Reunion; Huronia Regional Centre Alumni Committee; The Meeting Place, Room 121, Boardroom B, Huronia Regional Centre Administration Building, Orillia, Ontario. Over the past decade, about 300 residents have moved from Huronia Regional Centre to live in the community - All former residents and clients are invited to attend. Call Claire Burridge at HRC: (705) 326-7361.

August 28-29: Conference - A healthy team...to meet tomorrow's challenge; Canadian Mental Health Association; Algoma's Water Tower Inn, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. Call Anita Tierney: (416) 964-9611.

September 14-15: Conference - Ready to Learn: Better Beginnings and Brighter Futures; Christian Children's Fund of Canada; Inn on the Park, Toronto, Ontario. Call Inga Aagaard: (416) 825-2369.

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September 22: Workshop - Program Evaluation for Human Service Organizations: A Practical Approach (Part 1); the Volunteer Organization of CPRI; London, Ontario. Call Brenda Pilley: (519) 471-2540 ext. 2074. (Part 2 will be presented on December 8, 1993)

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Regional News

A roundup of MCSS funding for community agencies.

The following announcements were made during May and early June. The city in each heading is the location of the ministry area and local office which works with the agency receiving the funds.

jobsOntarioTraining Child Care Fee Subsidies Update

On May 7, 1992, MCSS announced up to 20,000 child care fee subsidies would be provided to support participants in *jobsOntarioTraining*. Last month, MCSS NEWS reported that 8,200 of the original subsidies would be released to expand the criteria to help people get back to work.

The criteria for the 8,200 fee subsidies now includes social recipients who, on their own, locate work or training and educational opportunities that lead to jobs, as well as teenaged mothers who are attending high school to better compete for jobs.

MCSS is continuing the process of releasing the subsidies to areas across Ontario. During May the following child care fee subsidies under **jobs Ontario Training** were announced:

- up to 744 to the Mississauga area;
- up to 733 to the Hamilton area;
- up to 478 to the Peterborough area;
- up to 503 to the Waterloo area;
- up to 128 to the North Bay area; and
- up to 148 to the Sudbury Area.

North Region

North Bay

Funding from the Ministry of Community and Social Services will enable the West Parry Sound Association for Community Living to diversify from its sheltered workshop setting and expand its supported employment programs for people with developmental disabilities. The funding, includes

a \$75,000 capital grant for renovations to the workshop setting located in **Parry Sound** and a \$36,000 annual grant to operate the expanded programs.

Southwest Region

Waterloo

Tri-County Mennonite Homes has been granted \$99,270 in capital from the Ministry of Community and Social Services to renovate the Aldview Training Centre in **New Hamburg**. The centre provides life skills and pre-employment training for people with developmental disabilities. The centre currently assists and trains 23 adults with developmental disabilities in the areas of communications, fine and gross motor skills, sensory stimulation, self-care, and vocational and social interaction.

NOTICE

Readership Update

The Ministry of Community and Social Services is updating the mailing list for **MCSS NEWS**.

If you or your organization are still interested in receiving **MCSS NEWS** and want your name included in the new mailing list, would you kindly let us know.

You can phone the information to the editor, Jane E. Greer, at (416) 325-5156 or fax it to (416) 325-5172.

Remember to include your complete mailing address, including the name of your organization and postal code and indicate the number of copies you require in the French and/or English languages.

NEWS



MCSS *News* is published 10 times per year (monthly except for December-January and July-August) to provide news about initiatives and program funding from the Ministry of Community and Social Services. It is distributed to Ontario social service agencies, associations, other governments, ministry offices, community centres, libraries and news media. We welcome your comments.

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NEWS



Ministry of
Community and
Social Services

Ontario

JULY/AUGUST 1993 • VOLUME 3 • NUMBER 6

Government plans new programs for people with low incomes

Tony Silipo, Minister of Community and Social Services, has announced Ontario's intention to scrap the current welfare system and replace it with more effective programs.

In making the announcement on July 8, Mr. Silipo explained that Ontario is going to replace the welfare system with programs that help people get training, get education, and get back to work. For the first time since the system was created in the 50s and 60s, the focus is going to be on helping people prepare for and get jobs.

The Minister released **turning POINT, New Support Programs for People with Low Incomes**, which outlines the government's plans to dismantle the current welfare system and create three new programs: the **Ontario Child Income Program**, the **Ontario Adult Benefit**, and **JOB Link**.

The **Ontario Child Income Program** will address the problems created by child poverty and treat all families equitably. It will take children's benefits out of the welfare system and provide a monthly cheque to all low-income families in Ontario - including low-income families with parents working full-time. Families with the lowest incomes will receive the largest benefits. The total benefits that a family is eligible to receive will depend on the number of children in the family.

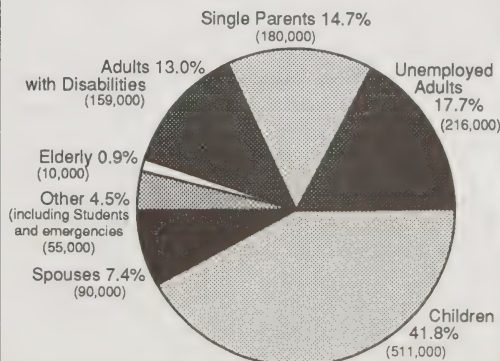
The **Ontario Adult Benefit** will replace the complicated two-tiered Family Benefits/General Welfare Assistance system with a streamlined,

unified system with one set of rules that will be applied in the same way across the province.

Adults will be provided with a monthly cheque that will take into account the cost of food, clothing, shelter and personal needs. A long-term income supplement will be provided to **Ontario Adult Benefit** recipients who aren't able to work full-time. Extra financial support will also be given to persons with disabilities to cover disability-related expenses.

JOB Link will help **Ontario Adult Benefit** recipients prepare for and find work. It will help clients develop a personalized plan that outlines the education, training and other supports they'll need to return to work. When **JOB Link** is fully developed, it will place participants in over 100,000 places each year in Ontario's high schools, community colleges, training courses, and pre-employment programs and connect them to apprenticeship programs and workplaces.

WHO RECEIVES SOCIAL ASSISTANCE?



The *turning POINT* public paper describes, in broad brush strokes, the scope and shape of the new supports that will replace Ontario's current welfare system. Over the next 18 months, the details of the design, implementation and delivery of the new programs will be worked out through discussions with stakeholders and other community groups and organizations.

The government intends to introduce the legislation needed to create the programs by late 1993 and has targeted the start-up date for 1995. The General Welfare Assistance and Family Benefits programs will continue to provide benefits to Ontarians in financial need until the new programs are in place.

For a copy of the document and information, MCSS has set up an information hotline. Call 1-800-461-2036 outside of Toronto, or 327-7730 within Metro Toronto. For people with hearing/speech disabilities, a TDD service has been established at 1-800-387-5559.

MCSS reorganization announced

The new structure for MCSS was unveiled on July 5, by Rosemary Proctor, the Ministry's Deputy Minister. In making the announcement Ms Proctor provided details of the organizational structure and some important changes in the way the Ministry will do business.

"This reorganization is as much about changing the way the ministry works as it is about moving organizational units and changing reporting relationships."

The changes are expected to result in streamlined decision making, reduced management levels and an organization which is adapted to reduced resources and where those resources are concentrated on clearly identified priorities. They should also help to achieve greater consistency in addressing the needs of clients and communities.

Some of the structural changes include:

- Changing the name of MCSS' Operations Division to the **Program Management Division** to reflect a new, clearer focus on the delivery of programs. Area Managers from MCSS' 13 area offices will report directly to Sue Herbert, the new Assistant Deputy Minister of this division.
 - A new **Developmental Services Branch**, located in the Program Management Division, will become a central point of responsibility for everything from policy development to program management in this area.
- Facility Administrators will begin reporting to

the Director, Developmental Services. Staffing for the new branch will largely come from the Community Services Branch and the former Operational Co-ordination Branch.

- A new, smaller, branch called **Management Support** will replace the existing Operational Coordination Branch.
- Children's facilities will report to the appropriate Area Managers.
- Regional offices will officially close at the end of this year. The functions currently performed there will be moved to corporate offices and to area offices. Many of the corporate service functions currently delivered at regional offices will be moved to the Corporate Services Division. There will be an increase in staffing in some of the division's branches in order to reflect that change.

Some of the changes in the way the ministry works include:

- policy divisions will be responsible for all policy work, including implementation planning, to allow field offices to focus on the delivery of programs. Implementation planning will focus on the creation of complete, field-ready and approved packages.
- fewer committees - the new organization will place an emphasis on innovative approaches to information and idea sharing, including better use of technology.

Pay Equity funding guidelines available

Guidelines outlining the funding criteria for pay equity in the Broader Public Sector are available from any of the Ministry of Community and Social Services' Area Offices.

The funding guidelines cover the following areas:

- eligible costs;
- rate of government funding;
- job-to-job, proportional value and proxy funding criteria;
- retroactive costs;
- agency accountability;

If your agency is funded by MCSS and you require a copy of the funding guidelines, please contact the nearest Area Office of the Ministry of Community and Social Services, listed in the blue pages of your phone book.

If your agency is funded by another provincial ministry please contact that ministry for the funding guidelines.

Pay Equity update

New amendments affect you!

Do you still have female job classes with no male comparators after trying to do pay equity? If so, the recent amendments to the Pay Equity Act affect you. You are now required to apply the new proportional value method of job comparison in order to achieve pay equity for those female job classes. The law requires that you start adjustments resulting from proportional value comparisons by January 1, 1994.

If you can't achieve pay equity for those job classes by using the original job-to-job method (required before the Act was amended) or the proportional value comparison method, you must notify the Pay Equity Commission.

A review officer will verify that you are a broader public sector employer as defined in the amended Act and that neither the job-to-job nor the proportional value comparison can be applied. If so, the review officer will issue an order requiring you to initiate another pay equity method called proxy comparison. The proxy comparison method allows employers to borrow job information from other appropriate broader public sector organizations offering similar services.

For advice, information materials and seminars on these new pay equity requirements, contact the Pay Equity Commission at (416) 481-3314 in Toronto, or toll-free 1-800-387-8813.

Minimum wage rises

Labour Minister, Bob Mackenzie has announced that Ontario's general minimum wage will increase to \$6.70 an hour from the current \$6.35 an hour on January 1, 1994.

According to the Minister, the 5.5 per cent increase will help reduce poverty and will complement reforms of the social assistance system that are designed to help people on welfare to re-enter the job market.

The minimum wage hike will also complement other government programs such as **JobsOntario**, which creates new training and employment opportunities for people who are receiving welfare and those who have exhausted

their Unemployment Insurance benefits and Pay Equity, which enable more women to earn a fair wage.

Included in the minimum wage increase is a raise to the student minimum wage from \$5.90 to \$6.25 per hour, effective January 1.

MCSS comings and goings

New ADM Children, Family and Community Services

Lucille Roch will assume the position of Assistant Deputy Minister, Children, Family and Community Services, effective August 16, 1993, Rosemary Proctor, Deputy Minister of Community and Social Services, has announced.

Currently Ms Roch is the Executive Coordinator for Social Policy at Cabinet Office. She has held positions in the Economic and Labour Policy areas of Cabinet office and with the Government of Canada including Policy Analyst with the Eastern Economic Diversification Office and the Department of Industry, Science and Technology.

New ADM, Operations/Program Management

The Deputy Minister of MCSS, welcomed Sue Herbert back to MCSS as the Assistant Deputy Minister of Operations/Program Management. The appointment took effect on July 12, 1993.

Ms Herbert moved from the Ministry of Housing where she held the position of ADM of Housing Operations. Prior to that she was with MCSS for twelve years, as a Program Supervisor in the Toronto Area Office, Manager of Seniors and Family Support, Manager of Children's Services, Manager of Program Co-ordination and Director of the Operational Co-ordination Branch.

At the time of the announcement, the Deputy extended a special thank you to Marg Gallow for taking on the Acting ADM assignment during a period of great challenge and change. Ms Gallow will continue to work with the Deputy and Minister in support of the social contract discussions and assist the ADM of Operations/Program Management and MCSS' Management Committee with the management of the regional office closures.

MCSS to bid farewell and best wishes to Shirley Hoy

Deputy Minister, Rosemary Proctor, also announced that Shirley Hoy will be leaving MCSS to assume the position of Assistant Deputy Minister, Operations, with the Ministry of Housing, effective September 7.

When she assumes her new duties, Ms Hoy will be leaving the two positions that she currently

holds - - Assistant Deputy Minister of Social Assistance and Employment Opportunity and the Assistant Deputy Minister of the Ontario Women's Directorate.

The Deputy Minister expressed her appreciation for the contributions Ms. Hoy has made to MCSS, particularly her leadership in the completion of the public paper on social assistance reform, *turning POINT*.

Coming up

MCSS NEWS welcomes notices of conferences and workshops. Please send notices to Editor, MCSS News, 7th Floor, Hepburn Block, Queen's Park, Toronto, Ontario, M7A 1E9.

August 28-29: Conference - A healthy team...to meet tomorrow's challenge; Canadian Mental Health Association; Algoma's Water Tower Inn, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. Call Anita Tierney: (416) 964-9611.

September 14-15: Conference - Ready to Learn: Better Beginnings and Brighter Futures; Christian Children's Fund of Canada; Inn on the Park, Toronto, Ontario. Call Inga Aagaard: (416) 825-2369.

September 17-19: Conference - "On being part of the solution"; Manic and Manic Depressive Association of Ontario; Geneva Park, Orillia, Ontario. Call Peggy Hall: (416) 481-5413.

September 20-22: International Conference of Alzheimers Disease; Alzheimers Society of Canada; Royal York Hotel, Toronto, Ontario. Call Debbie Benczykowski: (416) 925-3552.

September 22: Workshop - Program Evaluation for Human Service Organizations: A Practical Approach (Part 1); the Volunteer Organization of CPRI; London, Ontario. Call Brenda Pilley: (519) 471-2540 ext. 2074. (Part 2 will be presented on December 8, 1993)

September 23-24: Conference of the International Association of Psychosocial Rehabilitation (IAPSRs), Ontario Chapter - "Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Investment in Human Potential"; Holiday Inn, Kingston, Ontario. Call Shirley Eastabrook: (613) 545-2668 or Cheryl McKercher: (613) 544-1356.

September 30 - October 1: Annual Forum of the Active Living Alliance for Canadians with a Disability - "Rendez-vous '93 - Living the Difference"; Montreal, Quebec. Call Mrs. Jose Malo: (514) 933-2739 (Voice and TDD).

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Call Ben Baldassarro: (705) 949-8052.

October 27-29, 1993: Conference - Partners for Independence: Models That Work; the First North American Regional Conference of Rehabilitation International, co-hosted by the Canadian Rehabilitation Council for the Disabled (CRCD) and the U. S.

Council for International Rehabilitation; Atlanta, Georgia, U.S.A. Call CRCD, Leila Appleford: (416) 250-7490 (Toronto).



Atlanta '93

Regional News

A round-up of MCSS funding for community agencies.

The following announcements were made during **June** and at the **beginning of July**. The city in each heading is the location of the ministry area and local office which works with the agency receiving the funds.

North Region

North Bay

The **Community Counselling Centre of Nipissing** is receiving MCSS funding to establish a three-year pilot assessment and treatment program for youth who have substance abuse problems, or who are at risk of developing problems. The funding includes a \$19,000 start-up grant, \$93,000 annual for operations and an \$18,000 grant for program evaluation. The program will serve young people between the ages of 12 to 24 years through early intervention and outpatient treatment consisting of family therapy, group work and counselling, and peer-mentoring programs.

Addictions Outreach Muskoka/Parry Sound is receiving \$110,000 annually from MCSS to operate a three-year pilot project on behalf of young people who are experiencing or at risk of experiencing substance abuse problems. The project will provide services to young people, between the ages of 12 to 18 years, through comprehensive assessment, referral, case management and treatment. Service components include early problem identification, intervention and treatment in the form of individual, family and group counselling. Aftercare services will also be provided.

Community Living South Muskoka has received MCSS funding to enhance its programs for adults with developmental disabilities in the **Bracebridge area**. The funding includes: \$129,100 annually for the Supported Employment Day Program; \$70,000 annually for the Vocational Alternatives (Community Lifeskills) Program; \$82,100 annually to expand the Family Home Program; and \$312,800 annually and one-time operational funding of \$84,000 for a seniors' residential program. In addition, capital funding was also provided to renovate and furnish the premises for the Community Skills Development program and to purchase a wheel-chair bus.

Thunder Bay's Centre for the Developmentally Challenged received \$700,000 in MCSS capital funding to purchase and renovate three homes in **Thunder Bay** for people with developmental disabilities.

Muskoka Women's Advocacy Group is receiving \$960,000 in MCSS funding to expand Interval House Women's Shelter in **Bracebridge**. The funding will help to add an extension to the shelter and expand the program to accommodate 15 beds and serve more people. The new shelter should be ready in the spring of 1994.

Eastern Ontario

Centre Éducatif Soleil Des Petit will receive \$103,000 in one-time government funding to establish a new 49-space child care centre in **Hawkesbury**. The funding will be used to complete renovations, cover the costs of starting up the centre and purchase toys and equipment. The francophone centre will be located at 560 rue Higginson and will be licensed to care for up to 24 pre-schoolers, 10 kindergarten-age and 15 school-age children.

Announcement

Alliance of Canadian Second Stage Housing Programs

At the January 29, 1993 meeting of Second Stage facilities in Ontario, a decision was made to formalize and expand the organization into a national alliance - - **Alliance of Canadian Second Stage Housing Programs (ACSSHP)**.

The mission of ACSSHP is to provide an information network specific to Second Stage

Housing Programs and a forum for social and political action.

The mission of ACSSHP is to provide an information network specific to Second Stage Housing Programs and a forum for social and political action.

All second stage facilities, with a mandate to provide safe and affordable housing exclusively to assaulted women, with or without children, are invited to join the Alliance. For more information, write: Karen Laforet, London Second Stage, or Donna Hansen, Emily Murphy Centre, ACSSHP, 7-981 Wellington Road South, Suite #255, London, Ontario, N6E 3A9.

IF WELFARE ISN'T CHANGING PEOPLE'S LIVES, ISN'T IT TIME WE CHANGED WELFARE?

Ontario's welfare system isn't working. It isn't helping people to learn new skills and find jobs. It puts roadblocks in the way of people who want to work and traps them in a lifestyle of dependency.

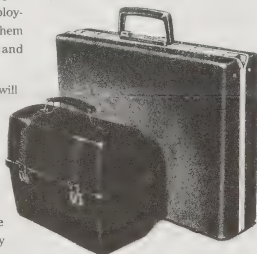
The Ontario government is going to scrap the welfare system as we know it and replace it with new programs that help people get training, get education and get back to work:

- **JOB LINK** will place over 100,000 unemployed Ontarians each year in high schools, community colleges, training courses, and pre-employment programs and connect them to apprenticeship programs and workplaces.
- The **Ontario Adult Benefit** will help adults meet their basic needs such as food, clothing and shelter while making the transition to work. It will also provide long-term income to those who aren't able to work.
- The **Ontario Child Income Program** will provide a monthly

cheque to parents with low incomes – including parents who are working full-time.

The new programs will begin operating in 1995.

Want to know more about these new programs? To receive written material or get answers to your questions, call toll-free 1-800-461-2036 outside of Metro Toronto or 327-7730 inside Metro Toronto or 1-800-387-5559 service TDD for people with hearing/speech disabilities.



Let's Help Ontario Get Back To Work

NEWS

Ministry of
Community and
Social Services
Ontario

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NEWS



SEPTEMBER 1993 • VOLUME 3 • NUMBER 7

Kids uncertain about their future

Ontario's children and youth lack confidence that their hopes and dreams are achievable. That's the finding contained in a study commissioned by the Premier's Council on Health, Well-being and Social Justice.

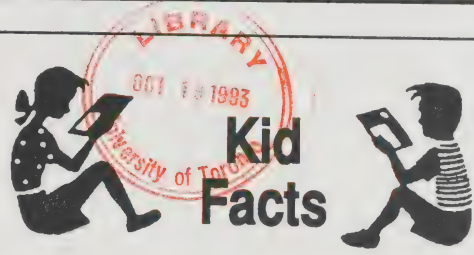
The Aspirations Report, prepared by Insight Canada, found that young people's hopes are "fixated on economic well-being and security, and even children in primary grades are acutely aware of the climate of financial pressure in which their families exist". Young children from grades five through eight displayed notably negative visions of the future. They foresaw environmental degradation, unemployment, increased competition for jobs and widespread violence.

"Parents' concerns echo those of their children," the report said.

"Many parents admitted they feel challenged to cope and survive. And often they cannot restructure their lives to provide the element they agree is critical to their children's development — their time."

One of the Council's next steps is to hold a series of community consultations throughout Ontario this fall to assist in the development of action plans. Young people themselves will have a say in the recommendations the Council will present to the Ontario government.

The Premier's Council will launch a provincial mobilization campaign in 1994. The purpose is to activate organizations such as schools, businesses, social and health agencies to work together to make practical changes that will benefit the health and well-being of children and youth.



- ✓ There are 3.4 million children in Ontario.
- ✓ Fifteen per cent of them live with a single parent.
- ✓ Visible minorities, including Aboriginals, account for 13 per cent of Ontario's children.
- ✓ Over 140, 000 babies are born in the province each year.
- ✓ About 18 per cent of kids suffer from a mental disorder.
- ✓ Around six per cent of children 14 and under have a disability.
- ✓ Youth comprise seven per cent of the population.
- ✓ Mortality rates for youth have been decreasing, but suicide rates for street youth have increased.

There has been a 160 per cent increase in the number of families served by Children's Aid Societies from 1971 to 1988.

Social Contract agreements will protect jobs and services

The Ontario Government's social contract talks have resulted in agreements covering every sector of the public service, helping reduce the provincial debt while preserving jobs and services for Ontarians.

All of the almost 900,000 public employees are now covered by a sectoral or sub-sectoral framework.

A combination of the savings found in the agreements, actuarial savings in the government's special payments to public sector pension plans and the application of the fail-safe mechanism where no local agreements or plans exist means the government will achieve the \$2-billion social contract savings target. From the \$2 billion, the government will be contributing \$100 million this year to the Job Security Fund.

Employees not covered by local agreements or plans will be affected by the Social Contract Act's fail-safe mechanism, requiring a three-year wage freeze and, if necessary, up to 12 days a year of unpaid leave for workers.

The agreements deal with more than finances: they point towards more workplace co-operation and democracy in the restructuring of government. For example, the agreements encourage joint employee-employer problem-solving around such issues as training and retraining; cost-effective service delivery; elimination of waste and inefficiency; and enhancing the redeployment rights of laid-off workers.

Employee groups who are affected by the fail-safe mechanism can still negotiate a social contract agreement for the last two of the three years covered by the Act. Such local agreements, which would cover the period from April 1, 1994, to March 31, 1996, must be reached no later than March 1, 1994.

The social contract is one component of a three-part plan involving: finding \$4 billion in savings from committed spending; raising \$2 billion in revenue measures; and asking workers across Ontario to help trim \$2 billion from public-sector compensation through the social contract.

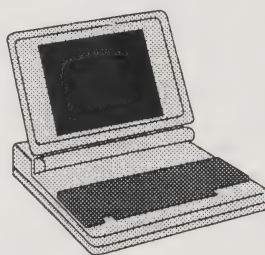
OTAB board of directors nominated

Nominees for the board of directors of the Ontario Training and Adjustment Board (OTAB) have been announced by Education and Training Minister Dave Cook.

Twenty-two people representing business, labour, women, racial minorities, people with disabilities, Francophones, educators and trainers were named in the July 21 announcement. Aboriginal people may choose to nominate a representative to the board after they've completed consultations with their community. This will bring the board's strength to 23.

For further information, contact Angela Hislop, Media Relations Officer, OTAB, (416) 967-8407.

Computer helps disabled social worker



A computer program being developed in Owen Sound is helping a disabled social worker service his clients more effectively.

The Grey-Owen Sound Social and Family Services Department is working with a computer

specialist to put the finishing touches to a laptop program that lets the disabled worker input a client's background information directly into a data base, without having to fill out a form by hand.

This means there's less stress placed on the worker, who is physically disabled, when he's doing client interviews.

The software was developed with a grant from the Mutual Life Insurance Company and with money provided by MCSS' Employment Program.

It's expected that this pilot program will create cost-efficient solutions to social service delivery that will benefit the organization as a whole, in addition to helping disabled workers.

MCSS comings and goings

During the summer, the following staff changes took place at the ministry:

Kevin Costante was appointed Acting Assistant Deputy Minister, Social Assistance and Employment Opportunity ... **Murray Hamilton** moved from Regional Director in the Southwest Region to Administrator, Oxford Regional Centre ... **John Rabeau**, formerly Regional Director, North Region, became Director of Native Negotiations with the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations ... **John Burkus** who, since 1982, held ADM portfolios with Policy and Program Development as well as Finance and Administration, retired from MCSS ... **Alison Fraser**, Acting Director, Policy Development and Program Design Branch, Social Assistance and Employment Opportunity, went back to her "roots" with the Attorney General in Ottawa ... in the Financial and Capital Planning Branch, **Dave Cope** became Manager, Estimates and Allocation and **Dennis Norton** assumed the position of Manager, Program Support and Analysis.

A roundup of MCSS funding for community agencies

Here are highlights from some of the announcements that were made from the middle of July till the end of August:

- A new child care centre for up to 70 children will open this month in the new Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School in Carlisle, with \$104,000 in grants from MCSS ...
- **jobsOntarioCapital** totalling \$2,467,000 was announced for child care centres:
In **Lindsay**, \$855,000 will go towards a new centre for up to 57 children at the I.E. Weldon Secondary School ... The Mitsubishi Electric's Northland Industrial Park factory in **Waterloo** gets \$160,000 so up to 73 children can have new toys and equipment at the renovated Owl Child Care Services centre ... Windy Woods Co-Op housing complex in **London** receives \$750,000 to build a child care centre ...
Eighteen non-profit child care spaces in

Coming Events

Here are some events you might want to mark down in your diary:

Peterborough Senior Citizens Council is holding its Fourth Bi-annual Fair, September 22, from 11:00 AM till 7:00 PM in the Peterborough Memorial Centre. Contact Lorri Birrell at (705) 742-7067 ... the **London CPRI** Professional Education Calendar lists September 22 from 9:00 AM till 4:00 PM as the time for a workshop on *Program Evaluation for Human Service Organizations*, and October 12 from 9:00 AM till 4:00 PM for a seminar on *Making a Difference: Building Self-Esteem and Sensitivity With Children Who Have Special Needs*. Call (519) 471-2540 Ext 2074

for further information ... there's a one day symposium, *New Developments in Early Intervention Models and Services for Young Children and Families*, on September 29 at the Ramada-Dixie in Mississauga. The gathering is being co-sponsored by **The Ontario Association of Children's Mental Health Centres** and the **Ontario Association for Infant Development**. Contact Leesa Owram at (416) 259-9773 ...

MCSS NEWS welcomes information about up-coming events. Please send your announcements to: The Editor, MCSS NEWS, Communications and Marketing Branch, 7th Floor, Hepburn Block, 80 Grosvenor Street, Toronto, M7A 1E9

approved private homes in **Wallaceburg** will be supported with \$107,730 ...up to 32 Aboriginal children of the Rat Portage First Nation, near **Kenora**, will have a new \$600,000 child care centre within six months ... a new hub-model child care and resource centre serving English and French-speaking communities around Chapleau, and caring for up to 72 children, will be built at a cost of \$852,000.

NEWS



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NEWS



DECEMBER 1993/JANUARY 1994 • VOLUME 3 • NUMBER 10

Effort to reduce violence

The government will form an advisory committee to find ways to reduce violence in the workplace. Minister Silipo announced this recently to a CUPE conference of social workers in Toronto on behalf of Bob Mackenzie, Minister of Labour.

Silipo said that "the committee will review and examine the various factors and causes surrounding violence in the workplace, the nature and level of violence, and the various measures already in place in different work settings."

MCSS will be making it clear to transfer payment agencies that they must be in compliance with the Occupational Health and Safety Act.

The ministry will be working with employer and worker representatives to develop a self-assessment tool that can be used by agencies to assess and monitor compliance with existing occupational health and safety requirements.

Government extends resident protection

Housing Minister, Evelyn Gigantes, is giving rights to tenants living in unregulated care homes and apartments in houses to bring them into line with tenants covered by the Landlord and Tenant Act.

"There are more than 47,000 residents - mainly elderly people, former psychiatric patients and people with developmental problems - living in unregulated care homes across Ontario and, unlike other tenants, they have no real protection," Gigantes said.

A large portion of the tenant protection measures are central recommendations contained in the Lightman Report, a Commission of Enquiry into Unregulated Residential Accommodation in Ontario, headed by Dr. Ernie Lightman.

Pay equity downpayment announced

About 11,537 full-time equivalent positions for child care workers throughout Ontario will share approximately \$6,031,500 from MCSS as a downpayment on future pay equity adjustments.

The money consists, primarily, of \$550 for salaries and benefits for each full-time equivalent position that received the \$2,000 wage enhancement in 1992/93 as the first pay equity downpayment.

This money is being paid to employers for distribution to staff in non-profit child care programs throughout the province



Anti-Racism priorities identified

Cabinet's Roundtable on Anti-Racism has identified education, justice and economic renewal as priority areas on which to focus concern.

A major education priority is to ensure racial minority and Aboriginal students benefit from learning experiences that are free from racism.

The Roundtable members agreed to work together to develop effective legislative and non-legislative remedies to address the increase in hate-motivated crimes in Ontario.

To encourage the participation of racial minority and Aboriginal communities in the economic life of the province, the Roundtable recommended that all programs related to economic renewal - such as **jobsOntario Community Action**, **jobsOntario Training Fund** and programs of the Ontario Training and Adjustment Board - be implemented as anti-racism initiatives.

Video helps people on social assistance

"A Bridge to Better Times" is a video designed to assist community agencies and social service offices to help people to bridge financial hardship until they get back to work.

It introduces viewers to Ontario's culture, as well as systems that are designed to help families and individuals who find themselves in temporary financial distress.

The 10 minute VHS video was produced in 19 languages and is available, free, to provincial, municipal and non-profit community services that find difficulty explaining social assistance rules. Phone 1 800 268-2380, or fax your enquiry to (905) 475-3750

Year of the Family

1994 is the International Year of the Family. The national committee looking after the celebrations urges organizations to get involved through a series of ideas and events that promote the importance of the family in Canadian society.

You can be listed on a national calendar of events so you can share your information with others across the country. The committee also

offers a video describing the program, as well as a merchandising program.

Contact the Canada Committee for the International Year of the Family, 1994, at 63 Sparks Street, Suite 112, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5A6. Phone (613) 230-7556, or fax (613) 230-7573



International Year of the Family
Année internationale de la famille 1994

Social Contract update

Four committees established under the Community Services Sector Agreement have released updates on their areas of responsibility.

The Sector Bargaining Task Force is offering various models to address sectoral bargaining and strategies for implementation.

The Cost Savings Task Force will identify cost savings across the sector. This includes guidelines to encourage and protect employees who identify waste and inefficiencies.

The Redeployment, Training and Adjustment Task Force is addressing labour adjustment and training, the job security fund and job registry.

The Steering Committee advises and co-ordinates the overall activities of the above groups and oversees the implementation of the Sector Agreement.

For more information on the Social Contract, phone 1 800 565-3643, or, in Metro Toronto, 327-3179.

Agencies designated francophone

Seven non-profit social service agencies in Ottawa, Cornwall and Alexandria recently got designation under the French Language Services Act.

The agencies receiving this official designation are: Au Ballon rouge-Garderie des petits, Ottawa; Centre de santé Élisabeth Bruyere, Ottawa; Community Living Stormont County (Adolphus Street Residence, Community Contact Program, Resource Teacher Program), Cornwall; Conseil sur le vieillissement d'Ottawa-Carleton, Ottawa; Garderie Brin de soleil d'Ottawa est Inc.,

Ottawa; King's Daughter's Dinner Wagon, Ottawa; and La Montée d'elle - Centre de ressources en violence familiale SDG Inc.

This brings to 80 the number of agencies under MCSS that are designated under the Act.

D'Arcy Place closure extended

The time frame to place clients from D'Arcy Place, Cobourg, into the community, and to close the facility, has been extended until 1996.

Originally, D'Arcy Place was to close in March, 1994. However, more time is needed to ensure appropriate planning is done so the 51 residents can move into the community with the necessary support services and resources.

The 169 staff will not be immediately affected. D'Arcy Place services people with developmental disabilities.

Roundup of funding for agencies

Supportive housing funding of \$82,600 annually has been confirmed for Hope Community in Ottawa ... Cambridge Association for the Mentally Handicapped will be given \$250,000 to build a new home for clients ... Up to 26 Aboriginal children will benefit from a \$37,311 start-up grant to the Mohawk Council of

Akwasasne for a new child care centre near **Cornwall** ... the River Parkway Preschool Centre, **Ottawa**, gets \$49,502 for renovations and new appliances ... \$185,000 in supportive housing funding has been given to Christian Horizons in **Etobicoke** for essential support services.

jobsOntario Capital grants announced

Bobcaygeon Nursery School and Day Care gets \$165,000 to add 18 child care spaces ... **Aladin Preschool Centre, Ottawa**, received \$1.3-million to build a new child care centre ... **Garderie Bouton d'Or, Timiskaming**, got \$500,000 to build an expanded child care centre for 52 children ... **Centre Familiales de Ressources Familiales de l'Estrie** got \$200,000 for a new francophone child care centre in **Cornwall** ... **Scarborough's Birkdale Community Centre** got \$800,000 to build a new child care facility ... \$1.2-million has been given to the **Delta Chi Beta Child Care Centre in Windsor** to build an expanded 77-space facility ... the **Dufferin Association for Community Living** gets up to \$1.1-million for a new child care centre with up to 50 spaces in **Orangeville** ... \$536,000 will be given to **Kingston's Division Road Pre-School** for a newly-expanded child care centre ... **jobsOntario Funding** in the amount of \$146,000 has been given to **Sault Ste Marie Day Care Services** to set up and operate a new child care facility in **Thessalon**.

Coming Events

Keep your calendar clear for the following events:

Policy development panel discussion, Toronto and District parent Co-operative Preschool Corporation, January 19. Phone (416) 285-7272 ... Training in Staff Supervision, January 17-19 (London) and Delcrest Resource Centre, January 24-26 (Toronto). Phone (416) 633-0515 ... Identification of Seizures in the Developmentally Delayed Population, CPRI, January 19. For more information, phone (519) 471-2540 ext. 2074 ... Rural Child Care

conference, Geneva Park, Orillia, January 20-22. Phone Joyce Canning, Ministry of Agriculture and Food, (519) 767-3115 ... The Critical Path: A Multiprofessional Approach to the Care of the Trauma Patient, Inn on the Park, North York, April 29-30. Phone Ms Stolarchuk, Sunnybrook Health Science Centre, (416) 480-6100 extension 5904 ... Centre for Studies of Children at Risk Inaugural Symposium, May 31-June 2, Sheraton Hotel, Hamilton. Phone Peggy McAlpine, Chedoke-McMaster Hospital, (905) 521-2100

News from other ministries

Finance Minister Laughren is raising the smoking age to 19 and fining people up to \$10,000 for possession of more than four cartons of contraband cigarettes ... Graduated licensing for new drivers - a system requiring new drivers of all ages to develop driving skills gradually - came closer to reality with the introduction of legislation in November by Transport Minister Pouliot ... the Ministry of Citizenship has announced an anti-racism project funding program worth just over \$1.1-million to help community-based organizations reduce racism throughout the province ... **jobsOntario Capital** has joined with the Ministry of Transport to provide \$42-million worth of contracts for Highway 407 construction ... the Ministry of Health has announced a grant of \$700,000 for the Ontario Healthy Communities Coalition to develop a province-wide network to promote health in communities.

MCSS changes

Andrea Walker, Director of Legal Services, becomes Acting Assistant Deputy Minister, Strategic Directions Division, effective January 4 ... **Peter Wiley**, currently Deputy Director of Legal Services, becomes Acting Director ... the **Child Care Branch**, which has been reporting to Strategic Directions, will report to the Children, Family and Community Services Division starting January 4.

jobsOntario Training updates

The Abatisowin Training Management Group will act as the **jobsOntario Training** broker for Aboriginal people in the region surrounding **Cochrane, Moosonee and Timmins** ... the **London Convention Centre** is going to train 129 participants for work in the tourism and hospitality industry ... six long-term unemployed people from **Orillia** are getting self-employment training through a partnership with the provincial government and the Simcoe Board of Education ... \$330,000 is set aside for **Fleetwood Metal Industries in Tilbury** to train and hire 39 long-term unemployed people ... twelve people graduated from entrepreneurial training in **North Frontenac**, while another dozen are scheduled to begin the course in January ... **Standard Products (Canada) Ltd.** and **Laidlaw Carriers** are receiving \$1-million to help them hire 177 people in **Stratford, Mitchell and Georgetown**.

Reader's Survey

We'd like to take your pulse so we can find out what you think of MCSS NEWS.

Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey so you can help us to help you.

MCSS NEWS is published 10 times a year. This is:

_____ often enough _____ not often enough _____ too often

MCSS NEWS is usually about 4 pages per issue. This is:

_____ too much reading _____ about enough reading _____ not much reading

MCSS NEWS stories are no more than 4 paragraphs. This is:

_____ too short _____ about right _____ too long

When I receive MCSS NEWS, I usually:

_____ don't read it _____ glance at it quickly _____ read most of it _____ read all of it

The information in MCSS NEWS is:

_____ helpful to my work _____ not helpful to my work _____ too old to be useful

Is MCSS NEWS being delivered to you properly?

_____ yes _____ no, I get more than one copy _____ no, it keeps going to the wrong address

_____ other (Please explain: _____)

Your Old Address:

Your New Address:

How concerned would you be if MCSS NEWS stopped publishing?

_____ quite concerned _____ mildly concerned _____ not concerned

Please give us any other comments you might have:

I work:

_____ for MCSS _____ another ministry _____ an agency _____ other

Please return this survey to:

**The Editor
MCSS NEWS
MCSS Communications and Marketing Branch
7th Floor, Hepburn Block
80 Grosvenor Street
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1E9**

Thanks!

NEWS

Ministry of
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Ontario

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NEWS



Ministry of
Community and
Social Services

Ontario

FEBRUARY 1994 • VOLUME 4 • NUMBER 1

Laughren wants funding equity from Ottawa

Finance Minister Floyd Laughren wants Ottawa to restore equity to the provincial funding process, beginning with the 1994-95 federal budget.

In a letter to stakeholders, Laughren said Ontario's appeals to the federal government over the years have been ignored.

"We are asking Ottawa to allocate money equitably - not that it necessarily spend more," Laughren said in his letter. "Equitable funding would allow us to expand programs that are already in place to promote economic growth and create jobs," the Finance Minister continued.

"The figures prove that Ontario is on the right track with its job creation and infrastructure investment programs. With additional funds, we will be able to do more, and do it faster."

Laughren's letter follows one sent by the Premier to all Ontario Members of Parliament, asking them to lobby the government and "let them know, through your upcoming budget, that you will end the discriminatory policies of the former Conservative government and will treat the people of Ontario fairly."

Governor General supports Year of the Family

"The International Year of the Family offers Canadian families a unique opportunity to put aside the demands of hectic schedules and daily commitments to reflect upon the blessings of our families," said Governor General Ray Hnatyshyn.

"During these times of ever increasing demands on families, many of whom are facing economic struggles, this year takes on a particular saliency: it calls on each of us to realize that we possess the love which is pre-requisite to enhancing our family lives."

MCSS is the government's lead ministry for the International Year of the Family.

New job incentive for Metro Toronto

The ministry has invested \$1.5-million so up to 1,000 people on social assistance in Metro will get an opportunity to participate in a new job incentive project.

The program provides up to a year's training and work experience in non-profit organizations.

Developed by Metro Community Services and Housing Department, the \$3-million cost will be shared between Metro Toronto and MCSS. Each will contribute \$1.5-million to the project.

News from other ministries

The Ministry of Transportation will introduce graduated licensing this spring, and give drivers the option to renew their car registrations once every two years ... the Ministry of Finance has introduced legislation to ensure Ontario's financial services are strong, competitive and able to help individuals and businesses across the province ... the Ministry of Health has released \$1.42-million for youth addiction treatment. A recent review indicated that from October 1991 to April 1993, 341 adolescents received out-of-province mental health or addiction treatment. The idea is to keep those undergoing treatment closer to home ... Ontarians will have a greater say in environmental decisions under the Environmental Bill of Rights, which has passed third reading in the Legislature. The ministry says the Bill will effectively serve the needs of the public, environmental groups, industry and government, as well as the best interests of the environment ... Municipal Affairs has released a package of changes that would speed-up the planning and development system, provide better protection for the environment and give more local control over development to municipalities. The announcement came in response to the Commission on Planning and Development, headed by former Toronto mayor, John Sewell. The announced changes reflect many of the commission's recommendations ... the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade has signed an agreement with Quebec that commits both governments to remove trade barriers between the two provinces.

Toronto job bank gets a boost

The Toronto Odd Job Bank has received \$60-thousand from MCSS to help operate a job matching service over the next six months. This will give staff the opportunity to find other, more permanent revenue from the community and government in the longer term.

The announcement was made on behalf of Minister Silipo by Gary Malkowski, MPP for York East.

MCSS facts

Through **Chaplaincy Services**, the ministry provides province-wide co-ordination of spiritual and religious care with faith/culture awareness for people in care throughout the province. The service is provided by MCSS to include the ministries of Health, and the Solicitor General and Corrections. The funding for 1992-93 was \$1.6-million.

The **Municipal/First Nations Employment Program** provides social assistance recipients with a range of employment preparation services. These may include counselling, assessment and referral, employment planning, job-matching, and employment related expenses. The intent of the program is to help social assistance clients overcome barriers to employment. 1992-93 funding was about \$27.9-million.

Vocational and Rehabilitation Services provide assistance to individuals who have physical, emotional, mental, or learning disabilities to become employable. The program is delivered directly by staff at the ministry's 13 Area Offices. Services are provided by obtaining or purchasing goods and services relating to vocational assessment, medical restoration, training, tools, equipment, transportation, child care and job placement. Funding for 1992-93 was about \$10.9-million.

Supportive Housing is an inter-ministerial initiative with the ministries of Housing and Health and the Long Term Care Division. It co-ordinates accommodation with essential support services to help individuals with special needs to live as independently as possible in the community.

MCSS funding announcements

Crisis Centre North Bay will get a \$750-thousand capital grant to build an eight-bed open custody and detention home, replacing its two existing facilities that are no longer suitable. The new facility will continue to serve young offenders ... the Community Adolescent Network of Hamilton receives \$915-thousand to build a 10-bed replacement for its present Outlook Residence, serving adolescents from 15 to 18 years of age ... the John Howard Society of

Victoria/Haliburton gets \$54,552 to develop a peer support network for social service consumers ... a \$1.6-million grant will allow the STEP open custody facility for young offenders in Kenora to replace its existing facility ... Windsor area adolescents, aged between 11 and 15, will benefit from a \$100-thousand grant to Maryvale Adolescent and Family Services for crisis services ... Children and their families will receive enhanced service from nine Ottawa area Francophone child care agencies that have shared \$176,100 in provincial funding for service enhancements ... Correction: in the last issue of MCSS News it was reported that a grant had been given to the Division Road Pre-School in Kingston. This should have read, Division Street Pre-School in Kingsville.

jobsOntario Capital grants

The Haliburton Wee Care Day Nursery Inc. receives \$36,545 in grants towards expansion ... Alderville First Nations' child care centre will get a \$70-thousand start-up grant to offset initial costs of staffing and administration ... Toronto's Pat Schulz Child Care Centre receives \$300-thousand to add 24 pre-school spaces to its program ... \$422-thousand is reserved for Thistleoaks Child Care Centre in Oakville to expand its current 57-space facility ... the Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre will be given \$800-thousand to build a child care centre for Aboriginal children ...

Coming events


Keep your calendar clear for the following events:

Toronto and District Parent Co-operative Preschool Corporation's 'Literacy and the Family', Scarborough, March 23. Phone (416) 285-7272 ... Canadian Institute's 'Abused Women' symposium, Chelsea Inn, Toronto, April 8. Phone (416) 927-0718 ... Bellcrest Resource Centre's 'Training in Quality Assurance', April 14, London (May 5, Toronto). Phone (416) 633-0515 ... Institute for the Study of Antisocial Behaviour in Youth, 'Understanding and Managing Antisocial Youth', 114 Maitland, Toronto, April 18-19. Phone (416) 538-0628 ... CPRI's 'Social Skills Training: What Works? With Whom?', April 20, London. Phone (519) 471-2540 ... Multiprofessional conference, 'The Critical Path', Sunnybrook Health Science Centre, April 29-30. Phone (416) 480-6100 ... Ontario Home Economics Association, Ontario Home Studies-Home Economics Educator's Association, Conference on the Family, April 30, Niagara Falls. Phone (416) 934-6562 ... Christian Children's Fund of Canada's 'Ready to Learn' conference, Scarborough, May 4-5. Phone (416) 495-1174 ... Ontario Gerontology Association's 13th annual

conference, May 5-6, Downtown Ramada, 89 Chestnut Street, Toronto. Phone (905) 660-1056 ... CPRI's 34th Annual Symposium, 'Today's Child: Tomorrow's Adult', May 12, CPRI, London. Phone (519) 471-2540 Ext. 2074 ... The Canadian Institute's 'Children and the Law' symposium, King Edward Hotel, Toronto, May 16. Phone (416) 927-0718 ... Community Information Centre of Metropolitan Toronto's Information and Referral Program, May 16-18, 590 Jarvis Street, Toronto. Phone 392-4554 ... Toronto and District Parent Co-operative Preschool Corporation's 'How not to be a Stressed-out Parent', Scarborough, May 18. Phone (416) 285-7272 ... Chedoke-McMaster Hospital's 'Improving the Quality of Life of Children', Hamilton, May 31-June 2. Phone (905) 521-2100 ... People in Motion 5th annual exhibition of products for disabled and elderly persons, Queen Elizabeth Building, Exhibition Place, Toronto, June 3-4. Phone (416) 455-4141 ... Association for Sexual Abuse Prevention's 4th International Conference, Chelsea Inn, Gerrard Street West, Toronto, June 12-15. Phone (416) 440-0888

the Pauline Johnson Child Care Centre in Brantford Collegiate will expand after getting a \$450-thousand grant ... Norwood's Hucklebug pre-school got \$575-thousand to expand to 56 spaces ... a 100-space replacement child care centre at Niagara College is possible with a \$1-million grant ... and the Niagara Peninsula Children's Centre received \$550-thousand to build a new child care centre.

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NEWS



Ministry of
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Ontario

MARCH 1994 • VOLUME 4 • NUMBER 2

Computer glitch delays welfare cheques

A program error caused nearly 27-thousand February FBA cheques to be put on hold while staff worked long hours to correct any errors, and notify recipients of the problem.

Consequently, some social assistance recipients experienced a delay in receiving their cheques.

In January, MCSS made it mandatory for people on FBA to begin reporting each month any earned income. These were the people mainly affected by the computer glitch.

There was also a concern encountered by some municipalities who process GWA cheques, using the ministry's computer system. These local governments took immediate steps to overcome the problems.

The ministry is working with a computer system that is 10 years old, and with this type of equipment there's always a risk of failure.

MCSS announced last December that it will spend \$100-million to install a single, province-wide FBA and GWA system over the next two years to replace the present technology.



New immigration statistics

Ontario was the province of choice for 52 per cent of all legal immigrants to Canada in 1991.

Out of the 230,781 who came to Canada that year, 118,782 settled here. That's a 5 per cent increase over 1990.

Most of the new-comers were between 22 and 42 years of age. The majority came from Asia, followed by Europe, the Caribbean and Guyana.

Favourite spots to settle ranged from Metro Toronto, through Ottawa and London to Hamilton.

Axing tobacco tax causes concern

Finance Minister, Floyd Laughren, said "I find it hard to express how much I regret having to make this announcement today", when he cut provincial taxes on a carton of 200 cigarettes by \$9.60.

Dramatically lower prices for cigarettes in Ontario have triggered serious health concerns from a number of quarters.

Dr. Andrew Pipe, Chair of the Determinants of Health Committee of the Ontario Premier's Council on Health, Well-being and Social Justice, said that he's concerned over youth, and those on

lower incomes whose reasons for smoking are varied and complex.

"Regardless of the group, however, lowering the price will simply increase consumption, adding social and economic costs that are much too high a price to pay," Dr. Pipe concluded.

Floyd Laughren had wanted to prevent an erosion in cigarette prices because of both the health impact and the loss of tax revenue.

However, he said that the government would combat smoking through other means, such as increasing the smoking age to 19 and promoting plain cigarette packaging.

Ontario was forced to reduce the provincial tobacco taxes because of previous action taken by the federal and Quebec governments.

IYF wants partnerships established

The national committee organizing the International Year of the Family wants the widest possible level of participation in promoting the family.

The committee is seeking collaborative partnerships with all sectors of Canadian society, including the public and private sectors, governments and academics.

It wants key organizations, unions, ethnocultural and aboriginal groups to encourage key leaders to promote the importance of families throughout 1994 and beyond.

MCSS is the lead ministry for the IYF in Ontario.

Plain language saves time and money

By using plain and simple language, you can make some dramatic savings:

- The old Ministry of Colleges and Universities used plain language when it redesigned its application form for the Ontario Student Assistance Program. Processing time was cut by 50 per cent.
- The Human Rights Commission is saving about \$15,000 a year, now that it has produced

plain language documents describing the Ontario Human Rights Code.

- Britain's Department of Defence redesigned its internal expense claim form. The plain language form cost \$15,000 to produce and test and went on to save 80,000 staff hours and \$474,000 annually.

MCSS funding announcements

The Cambridge Association for the Mentally Handicapped will get \$140,000 annually to provide help for individuals living in community residential settings ... \$128,000 annually for supportive housing will benefit women who are victims of violence in Elgin County ... Lambton Rural Child Care and the Petrolia and Area Family Enrichment Centre will share \$39,500 in one-time funding toward additional program staff, supplies and equipment.

News from other ministries

Elaine Ziemba, Minister of Citizenship and Marilyn Churley, Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relations have announced \$287,288 in *jobsOntario* Community Action support to the Tamil Eelam Society of Canada for a new community centre. The centre will provide a variety of community services and create 25 short-term jobs, and approximately 10 long-term positions ... Minister of Transportation, Gilles Pouliot, told the National Road Safety Symposium in Toronto that road collisions cost Ontario \$9-billion annually, and few people realize the health care and other social costs. His aim is to make Ontario's roads the safest in North America.

jobsOntario grants announced

The Beehive Day Care in Campbellford is receiving two grants totalling \$51,924 to make upgrades and to help offset operating costs ... Port Hope's Sunshine Heights Day Care is getting \$24,390 to renovate for six infant care spaces.

Coming events

Metro's Ethno-Racial and Aboriginal Access Week, Metropolitan Toronto, March 21-26 ... The Canada Committee for the International Year of the Family invite you to participate in 'The Work and Family Challenge: Issues and Options', March 22-23, Toronto Airport Marriott Hotel. Phone 1 800 267-0666 ... Family Resources for Victoria County, 'Quality Child Care Counts', April 9. Phone (705) 324-7900 ... Partners' Advisory Council Home and School Association Centre, 'Parenting in the Nineties', April 9. Phone (519) 846-0667 ... Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario, Provincial Conference, Toronto, April 14. Phone (416) 487-8489 ... City of York Board of Education, Family Conference, April 14-15. Phone (416) 394-2147 ... Independent Child Caregivers' Association, 8th Annual Caregiver Conference, 'To Hug or not to Hug', Rideau High School, 815 St. Laurent Boulevard, Ottawa, April 16. Phone (613) 749-5211 ... International Year of the Family Volunteer Week, Township of King,

King City. Phone (905) 833-5321 ... Toronto and District Parent Co-operative Preschool Corporation, Scarborough, Annual Conference, April 23 ... Conference on the Family, Ontario Home Economics Association/Ontario Family Studies-Home Economics Educators Association, Niagara Falls, April 30. Phone (416) 934-6562 ... Canadian Aid Society/Ottawa City Council, 'Artworks for Children', May, Gloucester. Phone (613) 747-7800 ... The Association of Early Childhood Educators, 42nd Annual Conference, Radisson Hotel, London, May 11-14. Phone 1 800 463-3391 ... The Centre for Studies of Children at Risk, 'Improving the Life Quality of Children: Options and Evidence', May 31-June 1-2, Sheraton Hotel, Hamilton. Phone (905) 521-2100 ... The Postpartum Support International Conference will be held June 23-25 in Toronto. Phone (905) 844-9009 ... Association of Early Childhood Educators, 'Week of the Child', October 15-22. Phone 1 800 463-3391.

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NEWS



APRIL 1994 · VOLUME 4 · NUMBER 3

Welfare fraud gets top priority

The ministry is hiring 270 extra staff mainly from within the government, to help stamp-out welfare fraud.

Minister Tony Silipo made the announcement, saying "Most of our clients are truly in need and they will continue to receive the benefits they are entitled to without interruption. But there is a group of people who take advantage of a caring system and we are going to pursue these abusers of the system more vigorously."

New staff will help those already in place to re-examine every welfare case the province administers to make sure all the needed information is correct. Silipo said fraud charges would be laid where that was appropriate.

Municipalities will receive annual provincial funding of \$10-million in 1994 and another \$10-million in 1995 to conduct their own case file investigations.

It's believed that \$60-million will be saved this year, and a further \$90-million in 1995, because of the new initiative.

For more information, contact John Stapleton, MCSS, (416) 325-5302.

Laughren keeps transfer payments at promised levels

Finance Minister, Floyd Laughren, has honoured a commitment to hospitals, colleges, universities and municipalities not to cut transfer payment dollars in 1994-95.

"I am confirming our commitment to our major transfer partners, to preserving essential services and saving jobs," Laughren said when he made the announcement on March 23.

"We intend in our up-coming budget to keep the deficit on a downward track, albeit at a slower pace than we'd like. And, because taxpayers have done their part, we will not raise taxes," he added.

The minister said he wanted to avoid "down-loading our fiscal problems" onto the government's transfer partners "as the federal government has so unfairly done to us. That carries too high a price in lost jobs and cuts to services."



Blue Jays Kids Day

SkyDome played host to 5,000 kids and their escorts during the annual Blue Jays Kids Day, April 9. The event, which has been held since 1983, is organized by MCSS, the Blue Jays Baseball Club and the Variety Club of Ontario-Tent 28.

Children, who were bused-in from as far away as Manitoulin Island and Windsor, had the opportunity to see the first major league game in their lives.

Minister Silipo, said "Co-ordinators from our ministry offices throughout the province have been working tirelessly with local children's agencies to choose the youngsters who'd benefit from this dream-come-true.

"I think I'm just as excited as anyone who is involved with Kids Day this year. I'm both pleased and proud that our ministry is able to be involved in this terrific, happy event."

The Jays beat the Seattle Mariners 8-6.

Survey supports MCSS News

Results from a recent reader survey showed that more than 80 per cent of the respondents read most, if not all the articles in each issue. About 75 per cent of people found MCSS News helpful in their work.

Over 60 per cent of those people who returned the questionnaire in the January issue were employed by agencies.

Complete details are available by phoning MCSS at (416) 325-5163.

Welfare statistics show small monthly rise

There were 322,000 households on Family Benefits in March, which represented 707,800 beneficiaries. This is up 0.8 per cent from February, 1994.

General Welfare Assistance was given to about 371,000 households, representing 654,500 beneficiaries, and was up 0.7 per cent from the previous month.

The combined FBA and GWA caseload represents a 5.5 per cent increase over March, 1993.

For further information, contact, Chandra Pala, MCSS, (416) 325-5274.

Roundup from the ministries

The Cabinet Roundtable on Anti-Racism held its third meeting last month, meeting with community groups from the Kingston and Ottawa areas. Citizenship minister, Elaine Ziemba, said "Eradicating racism in Ontario is a priority for this government and hearing the views of affected communities is an essential part of this strategy."

The province has sold its interest in Toronto's SkyDome. Finance Minister, Floyd Laughren, said the sale price of \$151-million was "the best possible deal for the province and for Ontario taxpayers." The 'Dome' was bought by a consortium of private sector companies.

A new, machine-readable driver's licence is being introduced this year to reduce fraud and provide a level of security. Gilles Pouliot, Minister of Transportation, said the new licence will look like a credit card, with the driver's photo and signature electronically printed on the surface. There are 6.5-million licenced drivers in Ontario.

The Ministry of Health hopes to save \$48-million by getting tough with the federal government about refugee claimants' medical bills. Minister Ruth Grier said about 66,000 people will be affected by the change which will go into effect June 30.

MCSS helps IYF initiatives

The Ministry of Community and Social services has established a network within the government to support the goals of the International Year of the Family.

Although MCSS will not be able to fund initiatives, a number of resources - such as speeches, displays and IYF materials - are available to community groups.

If you want help in organizing something for your community, contact Irv Kirstein, Communications and Marketing Branch, phone (416) 325-5196.

TV program shows abilities of disabled people

'Challenge Journal', which profiles stories of interest to people with disabilities, is getting ready for its third season on TVOntario.

Its public affairs format plans to emphasize quality of life and community integration and participation for those who are disabled.

The half-hour program will mix documentary profiles and interviews with expert guests. The host, Ed Wadley, is a wheelchair user.

Plain language saves time

The Lotteries Branch of the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations once issued a bulletin that resulted in 20 telephone calls a day. Each call took five minutes to answer.

Then they wrote a memo in plain language to 'clarify' the bulletin and the calls stopped. The result? A saving of an hour and 40 minutes a day.

MCSS funding announcements

Essex County Association for Community Living will receive \$210,000 annually for residential services and employment and skills development ... the Wallaceburg and Sydenham District Association for Community Living receives \$488,500 for a new home in Wallaceburg ... \$300,000 has been given to the Algoma Child and Youth Services for counselling families dealing with Elliot Lake's economic downturn ... the Northumberland Children's Aid Society is getting \$28,644 to launch a children's services emergency response program for Northumberland County ... \$216,673 has been allotted to the Regional Municipality of Waterloo Social Services to prevent welfare fraud and overpayments ... North Bay, Nipissing, Muskoka and Parry Sound share \$143,692 toward staffing to review social assistance cases to prevent fraud ... Wellington County gets \$143,670 to realize targeted savings associated with GWA program delivery ... Peel, Halton and Dufferin also share money, in the amount of \$734,375, to combat welfare fraud and overpayments.

Coming events

The YWCA of Metropolitan Toronto is starting a summer work experience program for young adults, aged 16-25, who have physical disabilities. For more information, contact Linda Hochstetler, or Lisa Gainer, at (416) 961-8100 ... L'Union Culturelle des Franco-Ontariennes holds its regional meeting, May 26, in Rockland. The theme is 'Women Today in the Family'. For more information, contact Lucille Roy, (613) 733-2013... Rygiel Home is sponsoring a one day workshop on feeding and swallowing disorders, presented by Dr. Campbell-Taylor in Hamilton, May 27. Phone (905) 525-4311 for more information ... A similar workshop is being held by Dr. Campbell-Taylor on May 28 for families ... Earlscourt Child and Family Centre is sponsoring Adele Faber, 'How to Talk so Kids

will Listen and Listen so Kids will Talk', , May 30. Contact Donna McMurray (416) 654-8981 ... 'Essential Techniques for Working with Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse', with Ellen Bass, June 8 in Toronto and June 9 in Ottawa. For more information, contact Athabasca University Educational Enterprises, 1-800-561-5789 ... 'The Challenge Model: A New Approach for Helping Survivors of Troubled Families', with Dr. Steven Wolin, June 15 in Toronto, June 16 in London and June 17 in Ottawa. Contact Athabasca University Educational Enterprises, 1-800-561-5789 ... L'Union Culturelle des Franco-Ontariennes is holding its Annual General Meeting at the Hotel Pinewood Park Inn, North Bay, June 17-19.

NEWS



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NEWS



MAY 1994 • VOLUME 4 • NUMBER 4

Ontario's social services to be restructured

A \$6.8-million Community Innovation Fund has been announced to help community-based social service agencies promote efficiency, effectiveness and service quality during the rest of the year.

"The projects we will fund will be used as examples of innovative approaches," Minister Silipo said. "This represents an opportunity to make a significant difference to our service delivery system and, more importantly, to the people we serve."

In a letter to the ministry's transfer payment agencies, Silipo said, "We are creating and saving jobs, holding the line on taxes, bringing spending under control, and reducing the deficit.

"There is reason for optimism. But, in order to sustain the economic growth we are beginning to experience, the government must continue to meet its fiscal targets." For more information, contact your local MCSS Area Office.

Former Crown wards get extended funding

Three million dollars in additional funding is being made available to about 1,200 former Crown wards so they can realize their career goals.

Minister Silipo, who described the government's role as that of 'guardian', said "It's our job, through this supportive initiative, to steer these young people away from facing the real possibility of becoming dependent on the social assistance system."

The former Crown wards - youth aged 18 to 21 who have been in care with Children's Aid Societies - will receive \$663 support month. Previously, there had been no consistent amount of money allocated to youth across the province.

Youth will have to enter into agreements with their CAS to work toward specified career goals, such as education and training, to be eligible. For further information, contact Susan Parr, (416) 325-5339.



Welfare numbers show improvement

"The future is looking brighter for Ontario's unemployed," said Minister Tony Silipo.

His statement followed release of the April, 1994, statistics, which indicated that the number of people requiring social assistance has declined by 6,950 households - or 1% - when compared to March, 1994.

"This represents the most significant month-to-month decrease in social assistance caseload since July, 1989," Silipo said.

For further information, contact Nick Betts (416) 325-5291, or Tadesse Haile, (416) 325-5278.

United Way gets grant



A program to train boards of directors of non-profit social service agencies in Durham Region will be funded by a \$30-thousand grant from the ministry.

The United Way of Oshawa, Whitby, Newcastle, Durham Region will be given the one-time funding for their Volunteer Leadership Development project. For more information contact Kevin Morris, Peterborough Area Office, (705) 742-9292.

Awards ceremonies honour Ontarians

Nineteen outstanding Ontarians were invested in the Order of Ontario this year. The awards - the most prestigious the province can bestow - were presented by Henry N.R. Jackson, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario.

More than 560 volunteers and non-profit organizations were honoured last month for their work in the arts, culture and multiculturalism in Ontario. Ministers, Anne Swarbrick of Culture, Tourism and Recreation and Elaine Ziemba from Citizenship gave the awards in Toronto.

For more information on either of these award events, contact Mary McEwen Wyllie, (416) 314-7243.

Federal immigrant policy hurts Ontario

Ottawa's decision to stop helping certain legal immigrants in Canada will cost the province about \$16.5-million annually.

Citizenship minister, Elaine Ziemba, said the move will affect "thousands of newcomers."

The federal government had announced that it was restricting financial support to government-assisted refugees only. This means that about 5,000 independent immigrants and 'in-Canada' refugees in Ontario no will longer qualify for the program, designed to help newcomers during their first year in Canada. For more information, contact Patrick Hunter at (416) 325-6176.

IYF celebrates Canada Day

The theme for Canada Day celebrations at Queen's Park will centre around Ontario families.

This is to highlight the International Year of the Family, which is being promoted throughout the province by MCSS. For more information, contact Irv Kirstein at (416) 325-5196.



International Year of the Family 1994
Année internationale de la famille

Plain english in Britain

News from the U.K. suggests the Ontario government is on the right track with its 'plain english' policies.

Britain's Customs and Excises used a form that had an error rate of 55%. They translated it into plain english and the error rate dropped to 3%. The 'translation' cost \$3,000 and saved 3,700 hours processing time and \$38,700 in processing costs.

Ministry's video a hit

"A Bridge to Better Times", the MCSS video that explains the province's social assistance system, has been requested by 110 community agencies and 34 government offices.

The 10-minute video is available in 19 languages, as well as open-captioned, to non-profit community agencies and municipalities free of charge. For more information, contact Dave Rudan, (416) 325-5157.

Coming events

Essential Techniques for Anyone Working with Adult Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse, Regal Constellation Hotel Toronto, June 8 and Radisson Hotel Ottawa Centre, June 9 with Ellen Bass. Phone 1-800-561-5789

... The Challenge Model: A New Approach for Helping Survivors of Troubled Families with Dr. Steven Wolin, Radisson Plaza Hotel Radisson Toronto, June 15; London, Radisson Hotel, June 16 and Westin Hotel Ottawa, June 17. Phone (403) 675-6468

...Catholic Family Counselling Centre, 41st Annual Meeting, June 21, Rotunda Kitchener City Hall. Phone

(519) 743-6333 ... Community-based Training, June 22-24, Toronto Airport Hilton, Mississauga. Phone

(416) 591-7151 ... Geneva Centre for Autism Summer Training Institute, Introductory and Advanced Levels, August 15-17, University of Guelph. Phone (416) 322-7877 ... Geneva Centre for Autism, Symposium on Autism, October 27-28. Phone (416) 322-7877.

NEWS

Ministry of
Community and
Social Services
Ontario

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NEWS



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Silipo announces jobLink Ontario

Tony Silipo has announced details of a program designed to get people off welfare and back to work.

jobLink's objectives include transforming existing programs into one, co-ordinated system that is focused on people's needs as they move from the welfare system into mainstream employment opportunities.

It's also designed to make existing training and job creation programs more accessible to welfare recipients, and to centralize information resources into a 'one-stop shopping' places to make it easier for people to help themselves.

"jobLink will map out a route to independence for thousands of good, hard-working people of this province," Silipo said.

"All of my ministry's employment programs will eventually be integrated into jobLink Ontario. We are adding \$25-million to the already more than \$200-million our government has committed to assist welfare recipients enter the labour force."

Incentives have been built into the jobLink program to help entrepreneurs and First Nations.

"I believe this is more than a wise use of taxpayer dollars," Silipo said. "I believe it is a testament to this government's belief in all the citizens of our province."

For more information, contact Judy Benson, jobLink Ontario, phone (416) 326-8259, or through Docufax, phone (416) 362-8329 extension 6277 and follow the instructions.

Nutrition program for kids

A community and school-based nutrition program, designed primarily for children aged between four and 13, will get underway in the fall.

Minister Silipo has asked the private sector to join communities in providing nutrition initiatives in their areas. These initiatives can range from meal programs and collective kitchens, to community gardens and food-buying co-operatives.

The government will provide \$1-million annually to help community groups launch, or improve a range of child nutrition programs.

Information packages will be sent out by September to selected communities, inviting them to submit proposals for funding, which could reach a maximum of \$10-thousand a year for three years for some co-operatives.

A non-profit organization will administer the initiative in liaison with an Advisory Committee. That organization will be chosen through tender by the end of July.

For further information, contact Susan Parr, (416) 325-5339.



Restructuring for better service delivery

Minister Silipo has met with provincial associations to discuss the Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS) Restructuring Framework, which is designed as "the only way to maintain the high quality of service the public has a right to expect".

The framework sets out ways of "doing things differently" in the social service field within the reality of reduced resources.

Silipo noted that the ministry and many of its partner agencies have been discussing restructuring for a number of years. The mid-June meeting was convened so parties could engage in a two-way dialogue based on the draft framework document, which will be distributed to transfer payment agencies over the summer.

For further information, contact Rose Langhout, (416) 325-4037.

Agencies asked to find savings

In a letter to transfer payment agencies, Minister Silipo has drawn attention to the ministry's continuing budget pressures and is encouraging the transfer payment agencies "to identify alternative approaches to achieve savings."

There's a shortfall of \$13.7-million, originally planned to have been absorbed by children's services, but must now be spread throughout the transfer payment agencies system. "As children's agencies, in particular, will know," Silipo wrote, "the original Expenditure Control Plan measure was based on incorrect information and assumptions."

The ministry will manage about half of the \$13.7-million internally, and help all transfer payment agencies to find the remainder. Ministry of Community and Social Services is encouraging agencies to use existing community planning activities to identify alternative approaches to achieve the savings.

If, for whatever reason, communities cannot agree on the means to achieve these savings, a 0.5 per cent constraint would be applied later this fiscal year to agency budgets in these communities.

Social Assistance picture looks better

On June 2, MCSS released figures showing that people requiring social assistance had declined by 1,550 households, compared with the previous month. This follows a one per cent decline in April, which was the most significant month-over-month decline since July, 1989.

Other government figures show an improvement in employment in Ontario.

Comparing statistics gathered for February and March this year, shows that 23,000 more people were working, unemployed people were down by 33,000, and the province's unemployment rate had fallen 0.6 per cent between the two months.

Additional statistics on social assistance are available from Chandra Pala, (416) 325-5274.

Legislation to expand Long-Term Care

Health Minister, Ruth Grier, has introduced legislation that will improve community-based Long-Term Care services and cut red tape.

The Long-Term Care Act supports more care for more people in the comfort and dignity of their homes. It also helps remove bureaucratic obstacles and creates a bill of rights, safeguards and appeals for consumers.

Grier said the legislation also establishes a framework for multi-service agencies to provide quick access for people who need long-term care services.

Additional information is available from Nino Wischnewski at (416) 327-4377.

Did you know?

According to a report released by the Ontario Association of Residences Treating Youth, the following statistics apply to children in care in per diem residences:

- 35 per cent have had a history of sexual abuse - 64 per cent of females and 22 per cent of the males.
- 51 per cent have had a history of physical abuse - 71 per cent of whom came from a home with an alcoholic family member.

Ministers update anti-racism initiatives

Ministers Elaine Ziemba and Marion Boyd have updated Stephen Lewis on progress the government has made with its anti-racism initiatives.

Lewis prepared a report on racism for the Premier two years ago. General areas he singled out for attention included the justice system, employment equity, education and training and community and economic development.

Ziemba and Boyd's joint letter to Lewis, detailing what the government has accomplished, is available through the office of Bernadette Sulgit, Director, Communications Branch, Ministry of Citizenship, Phone (416) 314-7606.

June is Senior's Month

Citizenship Minister, Elaine Ziemba, is making available a free, 20-item Senior's Info Package to celebrate Senior's Month.

The package includes Access to Information, Community Services, Financial, Health and Housing information.

You can get a copy through the Ministry of Citizenship, by calling, toll-free, 1 800 267-7329.

International Year of the Family (IYF)

Here are some tips to help you organize summer activities for IYF:

- Recognize families who have made exceptional contributions, or who have overcome exceptional challenges and obstacles in their lives.

- Extend help to families in your community through peer support.
- Include all family members in parties and outings sponsored through your workplace.
- Hold a food fair and invite families with different cultural backgrounds to bring their most delectable dishes.

For more information, contact Irv Kirstein, (416) 325-5196.



International Year of the Family

Année internationale de la famille

1994

Ministry announcements

The South Shore Kaleidoscope Children's Centre, in Nipissing Village's South Shore Education Centre, will receive \$90-thousand for operational start-up and to buy toys and equipment ... Anglophone and Francophone school-age children in Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, suffering from the effects of the severe economic conditions in those counties, will have access to continued family counselling through a one-time \$300,000 grant ... West Parry Sound Association for Community Living will get a total of \$110,000 to develop a family home program to allow people with developmental disabilities to move in with supportive families in the community ... Almaguin Highlands Community Living in Sundridge will get \$232,600 in one-time and annual funding to provide community living programs for individuals with developmental disabilities.

Coming events

"Medications and their Administration", December 6, North York. Contact Cynthia Sykes, Institute for the Study of Antisocial Behaviour in Youth, (416) 326-0690 ... Sunnybrook Clinical Day '94, "Caring for the Middle Aged and Substitute Decisions Legislation", 2075 Bayview

Avenue, Toronto, October 19. Contact C. Stolarchuk, (416) 480-6100, Extension 5904 ... "Understanding and Managing Antisocial Youth", October 31-November 1 and April 24-25, 1995, Toronto. Contact Cynthia Sykes, (416) 326-0690.


Child Care centre gets \$1-million

Rosalie Hall, a Scarborough community resource centre for young single women and their children, is getting up to a million dollars for expansion.

A **jobsOntario** grant will allow the centre to expand its present child care program to 63 spaces.

Rosalie Hall Infant Toddler Child Care Centre will use the money to renovate and add an extension to its existing building.

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NEWS



SEPTEMBER 1994 • VOLUME 4 • NUMBER 7

Sites announced for jobLink Ontario centres

Minister Silipo has announced that the following places have been selected for jobLink centres:

Bruce County, Sault Ste. Marie, the District of Algoma, the District of Sudbury, Metropolitan Toronto, the Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton, Cornwall, the Regional Municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth, Kingston and Windsor.

A total of \$50-million is being put into the centres, split evenly between the provincial and federal governments.

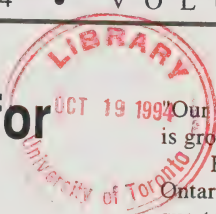
For more information, contact Judy Benson, jobLink Ontario, MCSS, (416) 326-8259, or Esther D'Amours, Strategic Initiatives, Ottawa, (613) 952-5767.

Welfare numbers drop again

The number of people requiring social assistance in August declined by 2,133 households. This is the fifth monthly decline in a row.

It follows a 1.3 per cent decline in July and a 0.4 per cent drop in June.

"This continuing decrease is a reflection of our government's achievements," Minister Silipo said.



Our plan is working and our province's economy is growing again."

Earlier, Finance Minister Laughren said Ontario's fiscal picture was on track for the first quarter. "We saw a gain of some 62,000 jobs between February and June," he said.

For more information, contact David Mercer (MCSS, Social Assistance), (416) 325-5275; or Suzanna Birchwood (Ministry of Finance), (416) 325-0333.

More francophone agencies designated

Six agencies in Cochrane and Timiskaming districts have been designated under the *French Language Services Act*.

They are: Centre Boreal Centre of Timiskaming (Kirkland Lake), Habitat Interlude (Kapuskasing), Integration Communautaire Cochrane Community Living (Cochrane), Kirkland Lake & District Association for the Developmentally Handicapped (Kirkland Lake), Pavilion Family Resource Centre (Haileybury), and South Cochrane Child and Youth Service (Timmins).

These agencies, which have received total designation under the Act, will ensure the delivery of permanent, quality French-language services for the francophone communities.

For more information, contact Denis Lozier, District Manager, Timmins District Office, MCSS, (705) 267-7901.

National Family Week

October 3 - 9 has been proclaimed National Family Week, as part of the International Year of the Family. A week later, October 12 - 15, the United Nations will hold its closing IYF conference in Montreal.

In Ontario, MCSS joined with other ministries during the year to promote conferences and festivals with a family theme.

For further information, contact Irv Kirstein, (416) 325-5196.

What is the Community Innovation Fund?

The \$6.8-million Community Innovation Fund was created to provide one-time financial assistance to community-based agencies to engage in inter-agency restructuring and streamlining activities that will result in more effective delivery of social services and in reducing costs for those services.

Through this fund, the ministry intends to build on the innovative approaches currently being implemented in communities across Ontario.

For more information, contact the Program Supervisor for your program/agency at the local MCSS office.

Ministry announcements

A 32-space child care centre will be built into St. Anne's elementary school, on Snow Avenue Extension, in Blenheim, following ministry funding in the amount of \$77-thousand ... Halton Hills Child Care, in Georgetown, expands to 77 spaces with a \$136,577 grant from the ministry.

Coming events

Family Portraits Conference:
Influence of the Family on Alcohol and other Drug Use, Addiction Research Foundation Toronto, October 27 - 28.
Contact Rita Thomas (416) 595-6028 ...
New Findings on the Development of Behaviour Problems and Delinquency in Boys, CPRI, November 16, London.
Contact (519) 471-2540, Extension 2074.

Agency news

The Kinark Outdoor Centre, in Minden, is available for conferences and workshops. For more information on the centre, operated by Kinark Child and Family Services, phone (705) 286-3555, or fax (705) 286-6184 ... the Tillsonburg and District Association for Community Living has two books for sale that share the challenges and triumphs of people with developmental disabilities. Contact Cheri Emerson, 153 West Street, Simcoe N3Y 1S7 for more information ... The 10-minute video, "A Bridge to Better Times", designed to help people understand the social service system, is available on loan in 19 languages, free of charge, by contacting LM Media Marketing Services Ltd., 115 Torbay Road, Unit 9, Markham, Ontario L3R 2M9. Phone (905) 475-3750, or fax (905) 475-3756.

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NEWS



Government
Publications

OCTOBER 1994 • VOLUME 4 • NUMBER 8

New service model for kids

Kent County will test a new inter-disciplinary community team approach to manage services for individual children and their families.

Minister Silipo and Chatham-Kent MPP, Randy Hope, gave a one-time grant of \$383,400 from the ministry's Community Innovation Fund to the Kent Children's Services Council so they could test an inter-agency access program to give parents and kids single access to children's services.

"At present, kids in Kent County have access to a range of children's programs that address a variety of needs," Hope said. "This new model has been developed to help parents connect to the right services and to ensure that the various programs work together to meet a child's needs."

The Community Innovation Fund has also provided support for co-operative projects in Simcoe County, West Toronto, West Nipissing, Wellington County and Mississauga.

For more information regarding the Kent County project, contact Anita Jackson (519) 352-5040.

Foundation changes direction

The Trillium Foundation, which is Ontario's largest charitable foundation, will be granting \$17-million differently this year.

"Trillium has identified a need across Ontario to play the role of catalyst, working to empower communities - not institutions - to use resources as tools for fundamental change," Ron Crawford, the foundation's Chair, said.

Trillium will now concentrate its support under three new programs: Promoting Caring Communities, Inspiring Social Change and Building Knowledge.

The foundation was formed 12 years ago to invest some of the proceeds from lottery ticket sales in social services.

For more information, contact Julie White, Executive Director, The Trillium Foundation, at (416) 961-0194, extension 211.

New job incentive for Sudbury

Up to 200 people receiving social assistance in Sudbury will be offered the opportunity to participate in a new job incentive project.

It will provide up to one year of training and work experience opportunities in non-profit organizations for social assistance recipients.

MCSS is putting \$100,000 into the project, with the balance to be provided by the District of Sudbury Social Services Administration Board.

For more information, contact Frank Malvaso (MCSS) (705) 675-4357, or Terry Kett (DSSSAB) (705) 675-2411.

Social assistance numbers keep going down

The number of people on social assistance declined again in September, for the sixth straight month.

There are 25,342 fewer households, or 40,705 fewer individuals, receiving social assistance now than there were in March, 1994. That represents a decrease of 3.8 per cent.

For General Welfare Assistance (GWA), there was, notably, a 1.2 per cent decrease in September compared to August.

There was a slight increase of 46 households in September receiving Family Benefits (FBA). There were 326,129 households, or 719,068 individuals receiving assistance in September.

Because of the long-term nature of FBA month-to-month increases are normal and to be expected.

Government announces Ontario Canada International

A new government trade and investment strategy to stimulate economic renewal, create jobs and help Ontario companies grow, has been unveiled by Premier Rae and Economic Development and Trade Minister, Francis Lankin.

"Ontario's future economic well-being depends on how well we can respond to the changing world marketplace," Rae said. "It's a challenge that requires a concerted effort by all of the players - business, labour, financial institutions and various levels of government."

Part of the strategy will be undertaken by the Ontario International Trade Corporation, which has a private sector board of directors, and will intensify efforts to land international capital projects and increase the number of exports from the province.

For more information, contact George Hutchinson, MEDT, at (416) 325-8521

200 in Toronto for youth conference

More than 200 children, youth and adult volunteers from across Ontario came to Toronto, October 1 and 2 for the "Voice and Choice" conference, organized by the Ontario Coalition for Children and Youth.

"'A Voice and a Choice' is about taking control and stating our views about the structures and institutions in Ontario Society that affect young lives," conference co-chair, Zenia Wadhwani said.

Subjects discussed during the two-day gathering included safe sex, violence in schools, discrimination and peer pressure.

For more information, contact Sandra Bars (416) 326-6763, or Angela Kooij (416) 326-6762.

Ministry announcements

The Terry Fox Public School's 39-space child care centre in Cobourg, operated by the Cobourg Family YMCA, opened last month after receiving an MCSS grant of \$75,000 for toys, equipment, staffing and administration ...the Durham West Farm Child Care Program, based in Port Perry, got \$48,600 to continue operations after September 1st ... Oakville's 44-space Iroquois Ridge Secondary School Munn's child care centre will receive \$110,000 for toys, furnishings and equipment.

News from other ministries



jobLink-Ontario

objectifEmploi-Ontario

Premier Rae has extended jobsOntario *Training* for another year. So far, more than 20,000 Ontario businesses have become jobsOntario *Training* partners, leading to the creation of more than 145,000 jobs ... Health Minister Grier has appointed 30 public members to the new Provincial Advisory Council on Substance Abuse. The council will advise the minister on policy directions for substance abuse, as well as advise on action priorities for programs, policies and resources ... Citizenship Minister Ziemba has

announced four intended appointments as Human Rights Commissioners. They are: community leader, Alberto Di Giovanni; women's activist, Aida Graff; National Alliance of Canadian Sikhs president, Baljinder Singh Sidhu; and Elizabeth Hung Sorfleet, whose field is cross-cultural and anti-racist education.


Coming events

Annual meeting, Regroupement des intervenantes et intervenants francophones en sante et en services sociaux de l'Ontario, November 18-19, l'Universite d'Ottawa. Phone: Claudia Lebeuf (416) 968-6759, or 1 800 265-4399 ... Children's Program and Group Development, Toronto PCPC, Scarborough, November 23. Contact (416) 285-7272 ... Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder: Assessment and Treatment Issues from Birth to Adulthood, CPRI, London, December 7. For more information, call (519) 471-2540 Extn. 2074 ... Child Adolescent Perpetrator Treatment - A Community Response, CPRI, London, February, 1995. Phone (519) 471-2540 Extn. 2074 ... Paths, Bridges and Connections into Community, Extend-a-Family, 20th Anniversary, May 12-13, 1995, Toronto. Phone (416) 925-5338

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NEWS




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NEWS



NOVEMBER 1994 • VOLUME 4 • NUMBER 9

15% of Welfare Cases get reduced payments

Error, abuse and incorrect information have led to a reduction in payments to about 15% of all social assistance recipients.

"We set out to investigate every case on social assistance," Minister Tony Silipo said. "Where we've been paying too much, we're getting the money back."

Of the more than 660,000 cases on social assistance, about 104,000 are making repayments to the government. Silipo said this is a direct result of tough new rules for social assistance recipients and the ministry's decision to investigate every case over a two-year period.

The figures were contained in a report called "Managing Social Assistance in Ontario: Finding the Problems and Fixing Them."

For more information, contact John Stapleton, MCSS, (416) 325-5302.

Social assistance caseloads drop again

There are now 32,500 fewer households on social assistance than there were in March, this year. This represents a 4.7% decrease.

Minister Silipo said, "There is no question that the government's plan is working and the economy is improving."

October's caseloads have dropped by 7,195 from the month before. This represents a 1.1% decrease and means that 12,703 fewer people are relying on social assistance.

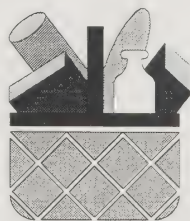
For more information, contact David Mercer, MCSS, (416) 325-5275.

Nutrition program gets under way

The Ontario Social Development Council has been selected to administer the province's Child Nutrition Program.

Minister Silipo said that, "With this announcement, community partnerships can now be mobilized for the benefit of children, their families and the community at large."

For more information on how you can get involved in the Child Nutrition Program, contact Dianna Chin, Project Information Officer, Ontario Social Development Council, (416) 594-9085.



New CAS announced

The Wabaseemoong Family Services Inc. has been formally designated as a Children's Aid Society.

Minister Silipo said, "The provincial government is proud to be part of this very significant achievement by Wabaseemoong. This designation signifies an historical achievement in solidifying control of care for our young people and over the services which support them and safeguard their well-being."

Wabaseemoong Independent Nations is located about 100 kilometres northwest of Kenora.

For more information, contact Dennis Petiquan, MCSS, (807) 468-2417.

Survey on restructuring

The results of the MCSS/United Ways restructuring survey, mailed to 600 transfer payment agencies and 50 local planning groups last August, will be available early in December.

Preliminary results are indicating useful insights into restructuring experiences, and supports required to help with restructuring, according to ministry personnel.

For more information on the survey or if you would like a copy of the Restructuring Framework document, call (416) 325-5832.

Long-term Care Act strengthened

The government has strengthened Bill 173 to reinforce the role of volunteers in the long-term care system and ensure the needs and preferences of ethnocultural consumers are met.

"Our amendments address many of the concerns raised during the committee hearings," Health Minister, Ruth Grier, said. "At the same time, they do not change what consumers told us they want - a system that is equitable, more integrated, co-ordinated and that offers simplified access."

Bill 173 has the flexibility to enable the Minister of Health to designate a multi-service agency on ethnic, cultural, religious, or linguistic lines.

For more information, contact Nino Wischnewski, MOH, (416) 327-4377.

Living benefits for terminally ill recommended

The government is acting to make it easier for people who are terminally ill to get advance payments on a portion of their life insurance benefits.

Finance Minister, Floyd Laughren, said the Ontario Insurance Commission has issued recommended practices to life insurance companies regarding the advance payments, known as "living benefits."

"There are people who want to use living benefits for medical care," Laughren said. "The voluntary recommended practices establish minimum standards for life insurance companies."

For more information, contact Elliott Katz, MOF, (416) 325-0336.

MTHA to be rebuilt

The Metropolitan Toronto Housing Authority (MTHA) is to be restructured, according to the Minister of Housing, Richard Allen.

"We're going to make the fundamental changes necessary to turn this organization around, and we're starting today," Allen said.

The move follows a study of the MTHA by KPMG Peat Marwick Thorne, which heard from more than 2,000 MTHA residents and staff.

Immediate action will address more involvement from communities, human resources, maintenance, security and financial management.

For more information, contact Bob Arseneault, Ministry of Housing, (416) 585-7478.

Supervised access program gets funding

The government is going to permanently fund the Supervised Access Program.

"There are many benefits related to supervised access services, including the protection of women and children, the facilitation of court-ordered and other access visits that might not have otherwise occurred," Attorney General, Marion Boyd said.

The program consists of 14 centres located across the province where children and their non-custodial parents, or other family members, can visit in a child-focused, safe and supervised setting.

For more information, contact Belinda Sutton, MAG, (416) 326-2213.

Ministry announcements

A 31-space child care centre has opened in St. Wilfrid's Catholic Elementary School, Pickering, following a government grant of \$376,771 ... provincial grants, totalling \$626,989, have funded a 41-space child care centre run by Schoolhouse Playcare of Durham Inc., in Whitby ... St. Catherine's School, Peterborough, has launched a new day care centre with \$380,782 in provincial grants ... Lindsay has a new school-based child care centre at St. Dominic's Elementary School, built with \$425,000 in provincial grants ... the Mushkegowuk Tribal Harvester Pilot Project in Kashechewan has received \$50,000 in start-up funding from the province.

Coming events

Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care holds its annual conference in Toronto, November 25-27. For information, phone (416) 538-0628 ... "Growing up different: Is it so different?", March 7, London. Contact CPRI, London, at 471-2540, extension 2074 ... "In Sickness and in Health: New Challenges for Families", Sunnybrook Health Science Centre seminar, May 12, Toronto. Contact Denise Beauchamp, (416) 480-4477 ... "The Quest for Sexual Potential" workshop. Contact Athabasca University at 1 800 561-5789 for Edmonton, Victoria and Calgary dates ... the Bolton Camp and Conference Centre, a non-profit organization, offers conference and retreat facilities for community groups. Call Cindy Glassford, (905) 857-3993.

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NEWS



DECEMBER/JANUARY 1994/1995 • VOLUME 4 • NUMBER 10

Silipo announces news for Transfer Payment Agencies

Minister Tony Silipo has told agencies that the total amount of funds for the social services sector will remain at the 1994 level of \$2.1-billion for 1995.

"My ministry has been listening to the concerns of transfer payment agencies and the people you serve," Silipo continued. "I want to mention a few other areas where we want to work with agencies to benefit people."

Those areas include sitting down with the Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies to develop criteria relative to incorporating part of the existing Contingency Fund into base funding for child welfare agencies.

Also, the ministry is targeting part of the Community Innovations Fund to promote opportunities to further develop individualized approaches to serve people with developmental disabilities.

For more information, contact Clíodhna McMullin, (416) 325-5592, or Rae Roebuck, (416) 325-5550.

1995 Welfare rates announced

Social assistance rates will remain at the 1994 levels during 1995.

"This strikes a necessary balance between the needs of those who rely on social assistance and the need to maintain the momentum we have achieved in getting costs under control," Minister Silipo said.

"The government has made significant progress in improving the management of the welfare system and getting people back to work," Silipo continued, "and people are getting jobs as a result of our efforts and the general improvement in the economy."

For more information, contact David Mercer, (416) 325-5275.

Economic outlook improves

Finance Minister, Floyd Laughren, has released the 1994 Economic Outlook, which indicates real growth of 4.5%.

The economy is expected to create 570,000 jobs between 1995 and 1998, bringing the unemployment rate down to 7.8%.

Between February and the end of October, 1994, 137,000 mostly full-time jobs were created



in the province, bringing the unemployment rate to its lowest level in three years.

For more information, contact Suzanna Birchwood, Ministry of Finance, (416) 325-0333.

December Family Benefits allowances can be cashed early

Families and individuals receiving financial assistance from the Ministry of Community and Social Services will be able to cash their Family Benefits allowances earlier this month. The move is a departure from the routine for individuals and families who qualify for assistance under the Family Benefits Act, and who normally receive benefits that are cashable at the end of each month. This change is to ensure timely access to their entitlements during the holiday period.

Family Benefits allowances for this month only, will be cashable on December 21, 1994. Individuals receiving Family Benefits through direct bank deposits will have their allowances available in their bank accounts on December 21, 1994.

As of November, about 79 per cent of the individuals receiving Family Benefits allowances have voluntarily opted to have benefits directly deposited into their bank accounts.

For more information, please contact Allan Kirk, Manager, Social Assistance Program Branch, MCSS, at (416) 325-5299.

DARE re-organizes its facilities

Project DARE is returning to its roots by providing additional emphasis on programs for open custody and probation clients.

Consequently, 20 beds at Project DARE, previously occupied by secure custody students, are being turned over to open custody and probation youth by March 31.

Project DARE, which is a MCSS facility for young offenders near Algonquin Park, has a national reputation for the rehabilitation of youth with destructive behaviour.

For more information, contact Fraser Pauley, Project DARE, (705) 386-2376.

MCSS **Restructuring**

survey results ready soon

Results of the MCSS-United Way Restructuring Survey of transfer payment agencies and Local Planning Groups will be released by mid-December.

About 600 agencies were asked to respond, including around 60 that receive funding from the United Way. About half those that returned surveys had had restructuring experience.

Local Planning Groups from around the province were also surveyed. Nearly half of these said that they had been involved in restructuring exercises.

The survey results from both agencies and planning groups suggested that restructuring had been a positive experience.

For copies of the Restructuring Framework document and results of the survey, contact the MCSS Corporate Policy Branch at (416) 325-5832. A brief survey of the results will appear in up-coming editions of MCSS News in the New Year.

Welfare statistics show slight rise

Social assistance caseloads rose only slightly in November, but there were 29,978 fewer households receiving assistance last month than there were a year ago.

General Welfare Assistance rose 0.6 per cent and the Family Benefits Allowance by 0.2 per cent. This marks a return to the seasonal trends typical of social assistance at this time of the year.

For more information, contact David Mercer, (416) 325-5275.

Ministry announcements

The Children are Unique Child Care Centre has received \$454,000 in one-time funding for purchases, renovation and operational start-up related to their 39-space centre ... \$227,000 has been given to Bridgeport YWCA Day Care, operated by the Kitchener-Waterloo YWCA, for conversion and expansion of the former Ring O' Rosies Child Care Centre ... A 69-space child care centre, to be built as part of a new secondary school in Barrie's south end, has received \$800,000 ... Walkerton Community Support Services has received \$62,700 annually for a lifeskills program for people with developmental disabilities.

News from other ministries

Health Minister, Ruth Grier, says the government will spend \$1-million annually to help community organizations deal with problem gamblers ... Attorney General, Marion Boyd, has announced that Susan G. Himel has been appointed as the Public Trustee for Ontario. After proclamation of the Substitute Decisions Act, expected early in 1995, the Public Trustee's office will be re-named the Office of the Public Guardian and Trustee ... the Tobacco Control Act has come into effect, which means that a person must now be 19 years of age to buy tobacco products in Ontario.

Coming events

National Seminars Canada will present 'How to Communicate with Confidence, Clarity and Credibility', Mississauga, January 23; Markham, January 24 and Ottawa, January 27. Phone 1 800 477-4749 ... CPRI London is holding a seminar, 'Communication, Team Building and Collaboration', April 5. Call (519) 471-2540 ... the Toronto and District Parent Co-operative Preschool Corporation will hold its conference on April 29. Phone (905) 839-9152.

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NEWS



F E B R U A R Y 1 9 9 5 • V O L U M E 5 • N U M B E R 1

Special Services at Home to get \$6-million

Minister Silipo told a Toronto news conference that the Special Services at Home program for people with developmental disabilities is getting an additional \$6-million. He said this will support more families caring for their disabled children in their homes as an alternative to institutional care.

"We understand the desire of many families to have their children cared for at home and in their local communities," Silipo said. "By working together with disabled people and their families, we have made significant progress in this area, but we still have a great deal of work to do."

One million dollars from the ministry's Community Innovation Fund was also announced to promote funding approaches that allow disabled people and their families to purchase services based on their individual needs. The ministry is already testing such a model in Mississauga and Thunder Bay.

Silipo said the Special Services at Home program was already serving about 10,000 families at an annual cost of \$31-million. The new funding will provide services to approximately 1,500 families currently on waiting lists for the program and will improve assistance to some families already receiving supports from Special Services at Home. Contact: Brian Low (416) 325-5826.

Fair Share for York and Peel

Community-based child and family service agencies in York and Peel regions will get about \$12.2-million more funding after the closure of the Thistletown Regional Centre, slated for the summer of 1996.

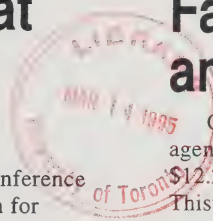
"This is part of our ongoing move toward community-based services," Minister Silipo said. "The ministry remains committed to local planning of services so that community-based agencies can provide children and families with the services they need, closer to where they live."

Peel Region will get about \$4.5-million, of which \$2.4-million will go towards Child and Family Intervention and \$2.1-million for children with autism.

York Region gets \$4.2-million, of which \$3.2-million has been set aside for Child and Family Intervention and \$974,000 for children with autism.

Thistletown Regional Centre is a regional children's centre which provides services for families with children who have emotional, behavioural, developmental and learning problems. It has locations in Metro Toronto and Oakville. The Syl Apps campus and the York Detention Centre - both part of Thistletown Regional Centre - will not be affected.

The ministry said that every effort will be made to re-locate, or re-train Thistletown's 300 employees. In a letter to parents, Silipo said, "I



want to assure you that no child will be moved out of Thistletown until there is a new support or program established acceptable to you as parents." For more information, contact: Vince Tedesco, MCSS, (416) 897-3112.

Re-alignment of MCSS functions in the North

The ministry's North Bay, Sudbury and Thunder Bay offices are being combined into one Area Office, centered in Sudbury. It's expected that this new arrangement will be operational by December 31, 1996.

Program supervisors responsible for Transfer Payment Agency activity will continue to work out of the District Offices in Kenora, Thunder Bay, Sault Ste. Marie, Sudbury, Timmins and North Bay. These offices will also provide direct services, such as Family Benefits, Vocational Rehabilitation and probation. Satellite offices will continue to report to the District offices.

Deputy Minister, Rosemary Proctor, in a letter to agencies, said, "I want to emphasize that this is a change in the ministry's internal administration. It should have little effect on your day-to-day contact with MCSS."

For more information, contact: Peter Noble (705) 949-8052.

Direct deposit increases for welfare clients

By the end of March, it's expected that 85% of clients receiving social assistance will have their allowances deposited directly into their bank accounts.

At the end of November, 1994, 79% of clients were benefiting from this service.

For more information, contact Jim Tighe (416) 326-8202.



Maureen Adams new SARB Chair

The Social Assistance Review Board's new Chair is Maureen Adams, a long-time board member. Minister Silipo made the announcement in January.

Ms Adams replaces Laura Bradbury, who has accepted another appointment. SARB is an independent body that holds province-wide hearings of appeals by individuals regarding decisions on General Welfare Assistance, Vocational Rehabilitation Services and Family Benefits.

"Ms Adams has held a number of progressively responsible positions with SARB since her first appointment in January, 1988," Silipo said.

For more information, contact Maureen O'Hara, Minister's Office, (416) 325-5213.

MCSS Restructuring

Feed-back from Agencies

Agency responses to the recent MCSS/United Way Restructuring Survey rated "clear identification and streamlining of data reporting requirements" at the top of their list.

Other subjects that ranked in the top three included more flexible funding criteria based on service delivery outcomes, and identification of ministry reporting requirements at an early stage.

Complete results of the survey will be available in mid-February from the MCSS Corporate Policy branch, (416) 325-5832.

Upcoming ministry articles

In order to provide information to the general public about its programs and initiatives, MCSS is preparing a monthly article series on a wide range of topics for English-language and French-language community weekly newspapers across Ontario.

The first article is entitled "Welfare Review: 15% of cases getting reduced payment" and profiles the social assistance system in Ontario.

If you are interested in reproducing one of our articles in your agency's newsletter, please contact Lynn Grittani, Communications and Marketing Branch, (416) 325-5155, or Fax (416) 325-5172.

Ministry announcements

Hamilton's new St. Marguerite d'Youville Catholic Elementary School gets \$428,781 for a child care centre ... a \$50,000 grant will fund a restructured model of licensed home child care services in Halton ... women, youth 17-18 and Francophones in Ottawa-Carlton who are involved in substance abuse will get \$165,000 for better services and residential care ... Victoria County Association for Community Living receives \$150,000 annually to expand the Tri-County Family Home Program for people with developmental disabilities ... Children and youth with psychological, emotional or behavioural difficulties are getting \$202,500 for a community-based treatment alternative in Waterloo Region, Bruce, Grey, Wellington counties ... \$94,000 in provincial grants will go towards a new model of support services for children with special needs in Hastings County ... Single-point access to children's agencies throughout Niagara will be established with a \$100,000 provincial grant ... the Owen Sound "Y" will get \$222,900 annually from the province to establish a youth, community service network for Bruce and Grey counties ... \$75,000 goes to Catulpa Tamarac for a new model of community services for people with developmental disabilities and psychiatric difficulties in Simcoe County ... Children with special needs in Simcoe County will get \$30,500 for a new model of service delivery ... Frontenac CAS gets \$1.8-million to build a new facility with Kingston's Social Services Department.

News roundup

The Substitute Decisions Act, the Consent to Treatment Act and the Advocacy Act will all come into effect April 3 ... the Ministry of Health has expanded life-sustaining defibrillation services to ten more places across Ontario: Joseph Brant Memorial Hospital, Burlington; Hotel Dieu Grace Hospital, Windsor; Oshawa General Hospital; North Bay Civic Hospital; Hotel Dieu Hospital, Kingston; Sunnybrook Health Science Centre, Toronto; Plummer Memorial Public Hospital, Sault Ste. Marie; Grey-Bruce Regional Health Centre, Owen Sound; Parry Sound District General Hospital and the Victoria Hospital, London ... Dr. Perry Kendall has been appointed President and CEO of the Addiction Research Foundation, effective March 15.

Coming events

"Paths, Bridges and Connections into Community", a two-day conference, will be held May 12-13, Inn on the Park, Toronto as part of Extend-a-Family's 20th anniversary celebration. Contact: Dorothy Winton, (416) 925-5338 ... the Ontario Association for Infant Development's annual conference will be held April 5-7 in the Holiday Inn, Oshawa. Contact: Ellen Boychyn, (905) 723-8521 ... the Metro Association of Family Resource Programmes holds its bi-annual conference June 1-2 at the Novotel Hotel, Toronto. Fax (416) 392-5849 ... a global conference, "Rendez-vous on Respite", will take place in Thunder Bay, March 6-8. Contact: Annette at (807) 623-2353 ... the Toronto and District Parent Co-operative Preschool Corporation's Annual Professional Development Luncheon will take place February 22 at the Yorkdale, Toronto Holiday Inn. For information, phone (416) 285-7272 ... Project DARE, located near Algonquin Park, has meeting and residential facilities for meetings/conferences. Contact Bobbie Baxter, (705) 386-2376.

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NEWS



MARCH 1995 • VOLUME 5 • NUMBER 2

Premier announces \$15-million for targeted support to children

Premier Bob Rae has announced more than \$15-million has been approved to extend the "Better Beginnings, Better Futures" program for more than two years in seven different communities.

"Emotional and behavioural problems affect one out of every six children in Ontario," he said. "Additionally, many children are at risk for poor health and poor school performance."

Minister Tony Silipo, who accompanied the Premier, said his ministry had been proud to have been part of the project for four years. "Over this time, we've seen children improve at school and their neighbourhoods have become better places in which they can play and socialize together," Silipo said.

Funding has been allocated as follows: Cornwall, \$550,000 per year; Etobicoke, \$510,000 per year; Sudbury, \$610,000 per year; Guelph, \$500,000 per year; Kingston, \$700,000 per year; Ottawa, \$515,000 per year; and Toronto, \$700,000 per year.

"Better Beginnings, Better Futures" is a co-operative government initiative involving the Ministry of Community and Social Services, the Ministry of Education and Training and the Ministry of Health.

For more information, contact: Carol Crill Russell, Tel: (416) 325-5329.

Child nutrition programs get approved

Minister Silipo has announced that \$413,962 has been approved for child nutrition programs across the province.

"The health and well-being of children, through community-based programs such as the Child Nutrition Program, is a priority of the government," Silipo said. "Therefore, I'm pleased that we are able to develop, or expand, child nutrition programs for elementary-aged children in their neighbourhoods."

The program is being administered for the government by the Ontario Social Development Council (OSDC), which reviewed and approved the community proposals. The Council's Program Director for Child Nutrition, Fiona Knight, said, "We are very pleased to be able to support funding in a wide range of community projects, which all demonstrate a strong commitment to improving the health and learning of Ontario's children through improved nutrition."

For more information, contact: Fiona Knight, OSDC, Tel: (416) 594-9085.



MCSS releases Anti-Racism and Cultural Diversity Strategy

The ministry's new Anti-Racism and Cultural Diversity Strategy is ready for distribution and work is progressing on a comprehensive workplan for its implementation.

"The strategy responds to the needs of Ontario's ethno-racial population for equal access to services," said Brad Archer, Senior Manager, Community Services Unit, Queen's Park. "It also complements the pathfinding work initiated by the Mississauga Area Office in 1992 and the Anti-Racism Protocol released by the Toronto Area Office last summer."

For more information, contact: Mohamad Haniff, Senior Policy Analyst, Tel: (416) 327-4985.

Ministry announcements

Oshawa's Ecole Corpus Christi receives a \$90,000 **jobsOntario** grant towards operations start-up ... Douro's school-age child care program at St. Joseph School is getting \$15,000 in **jobsOntario** funding for 15 new child care spaces ... \$40,500 from the Community Innovation Fund goes towards the Daily Living Support Services Project in Ottawa for start-up ... Improved access to children's residential services in London is made possible through a Community Innovation Fund grant of \$220,000 to the Children's Services Network ... \$75,000 is being shared by Family Resource Centres in Ignace and Sioux Lookout ... Haliburton County children's agencies will share \$210,000 from the Community Innovation Fund to amalgamate and streamline services... A core system of planning and management for children's services in Ontario is possible through a \$350,000 Community Innovation Fund grant that will pilot projects in Hamilton, Thunder Bay, Ottawa, Windsor and Sudbury ... A Community Innovation Fund grant of \$412,000 will make it possible for three Metro Toronto agencies to adopt a new model of children and youth crisis services ... the

School to Work Transition Project in Clinton gets \$47,000 from jobLink for students with developmental disabilities ... a Community Innovation Fund grant of \$75,000 to Catulpa Tamarac helps a new model of community services for people with developmental disabilities ... the fund also is providing \$30,500 for a new model of community services for children with special needs in Simcoe County ... an expansion of Wallaceburg's Country Playmates Child Care is possible through the ministry providing \$288,000 ... children's services in Etobicoke face a brighter future with \$58,000 from the Community Innovation Fund to co-ordinate services and agencies ... better housing for abused women moved a step closer with a \$91,700 grant from the Community Innovation Fund to the Violence Against Women Network in Ottawa-Carlton ... and \$105,000 to the Peel Committee Against Woman Abuse will provide improved services and access for ethno-racial and rural women.

Northern Reorganization staff appointment

Dawn Olar has accepted a temporary assignment as secretary to the Implementation Team that will support the Northern Reorganization Project. Her phone number is: (705) 949-8052, extension 224. The project will operationalize the single northern Area Office by December 31, 1995 - and not 1996, as previously noted in MCSS News.

April is Safe Schools Month

The Ministry of Education and Training has declared April as Safe Schools Month. School boards and communities have been invited to hold activities that focus on violence prevention.

The official launch took place on March 31st at Queen's Park at the Safe Schools Fair. For more information, contact Rae Deeton, Co-ordinator, Safe Schools Month, Tel: (416) 325-2009.

Coming events

"Empowering Teachers and Parents: Who's in Charge, Anyway?", Parent Co-Operative Preschool Corporation's 24th annual Growing Together conference, Scarborough, April 29.

Contact: PCPC, Tel: (416) 285-7272 ...

"Training in Program Management", Dellcrest Children's Centre, Downsview, May 3 - 5.

Contact Andrew Jarrett, Tel: (416) 633-0515 ...
14th annual conference, "The Changing Face of Aging", May 4 - 5, sponsored by the Ontario Gerontology Association, Toronto Colony Hotel. Contact: Debby Vigoda, Tel: (905) 660-1056 ... "Avenues of

Information" at the "Growing '95" Conference, Toronto International Plaza Hotel, May 7 - 11. Contact: Claire Braseliten, Tel: (416) 733-0033 ... CPRI's 35th annual symposium, "Family Centered Continuous Care of Developmentally Challenged Children with Complex Medical Needs", May 10, CPRI, London. Contact: Brenda Pilley, Tel: (519) 471-2540 ... "Paths, Bridges and Connections into Community", Extend-a-Family Canada's 20th anniversary celebration, May 12 - 13, Inn on the Park, Toronto. Contact: Ann Osler, Tel: (416) 925-5338 ... Twin Lakes International Marathon & Half Marathon Run & Walk, October 1, Orillia.

NEWS



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